

NOVA[®]

The background of the entire cover is a fiery, apocalyptic landscape. A large, dark, jagged rock formation or structure dominates the left side, with bright orange and red flames and smoke rising from it. The Nova character stands in the center-right, facing slightly left. He is wearing his iconic black and yellow suit, which includes a helmet with a red visor, a yellow chest plate with a black 'Y' shape, and yellow gauntlets. The overall color palette is dominated by reds, oranges, and yellows, creating a sense of intense heat and destruction.

*"Nova is one of the
unsung heroes of Marvel's
comic-book lineup."*

— ForcesofGeek.com

AXIS

DUGGAN

**MARVEL
NOW!**

**BALDEON
TIMMS**



"Even if you're not a cosmic fan, this book is worth it. Put it on your pull list."
— ComicVine.com

A PERFECT JUMPING-ON POINT FOR THE NEWEST NOVA'S ADVENTURES!

Axis tie-in! Sam Alexander, the young Nova, faces...wait, is that the Hulk? What happened to him? Find out why they're fighting — and more important, just how Sam thinks he has a chance! Then, Carnage ensues when the psychotic Cletus Kasady comes to Carefree! Carnage knows Nova's secret identity — and he can't wait to share it with Sam's whole school! What's worse, Nova's helmet is still on the fritz! When's this kid gonna catch a break? Not today, as Hulk makes an unexpected reappearance! Things are changing for Sam Alexander — aka Nova, the Human Rocket — so get on board the fastest-moving comic in the biz!

Collecting *Nova (2013) #23-27* — written by Gerry Duggan,
and illustrated by David Baldeon and John Timms.



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DUGGAN
BALDEON
PALLOT
CURIEL

023

NOVA

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PUBLISHER **DAN BUCKLEY** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER **ALAN FINE**

PREVIOUSLY...

Sam Alexander's father, Jesse, used to tell him stories about the intergalactic Nova Corps, a peacekeeping force throughout the galaxy. Sam always thought these stories were just that – stories – until one day his father went missing and Sam found his old helmet, becoming the interstellar hero called Nova!

Recently, Nova was on the island of Genosha with a group of Avengers working to stop a creature known as Red Onslaught – a resurrected Red Skull wielding the telepathic abilities of the deceased founder of the X-Men, Charles Xavier. Nova got knocked clean off the island by Red Onslaught and rendezvoused in New York with Spider-Man and Steve Rogers.

This is what happened next.



CHAPTER XXIII: WOULDN'T MAMA BE PROUD

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WE HAVE
NO CHOICE...
THE MONSTER
IS TOO MUCH.
FALL BACK.

YES, SIR.



I'VE BEEN
DEFENDING THIS
COUNTRY FOR
DECADES...

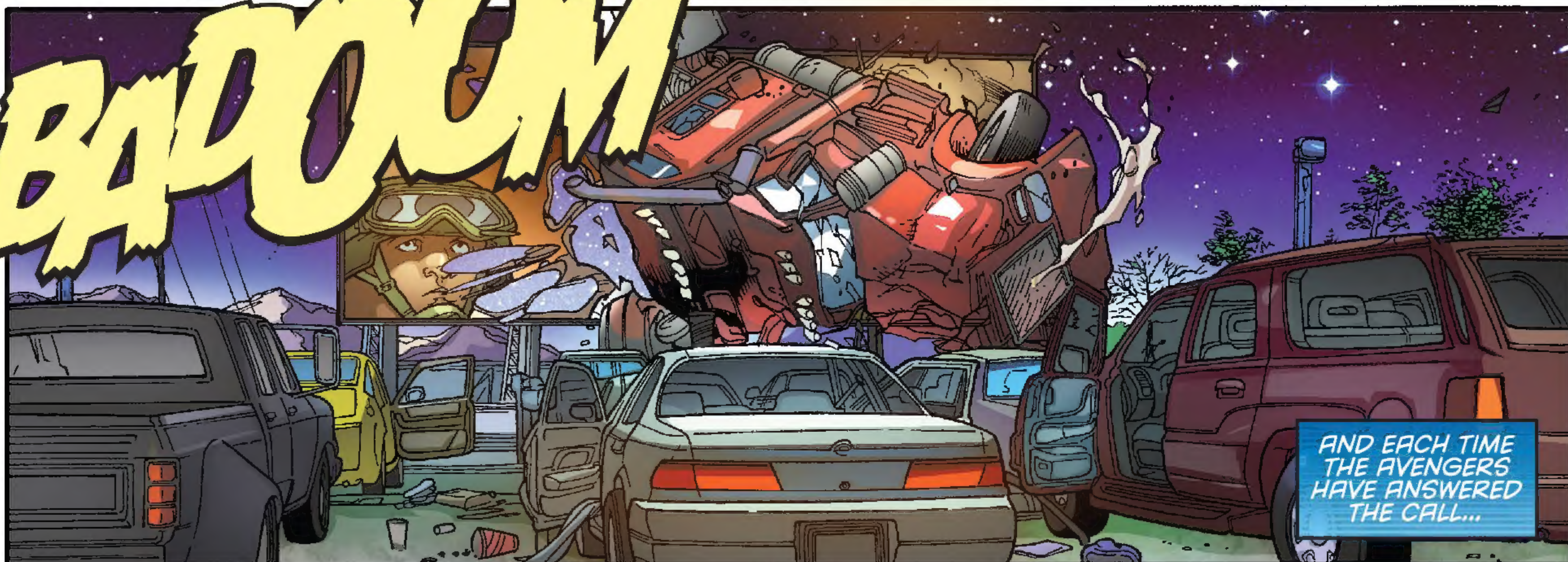


WE'RE
GOING TO NEED
A MIRACLE.

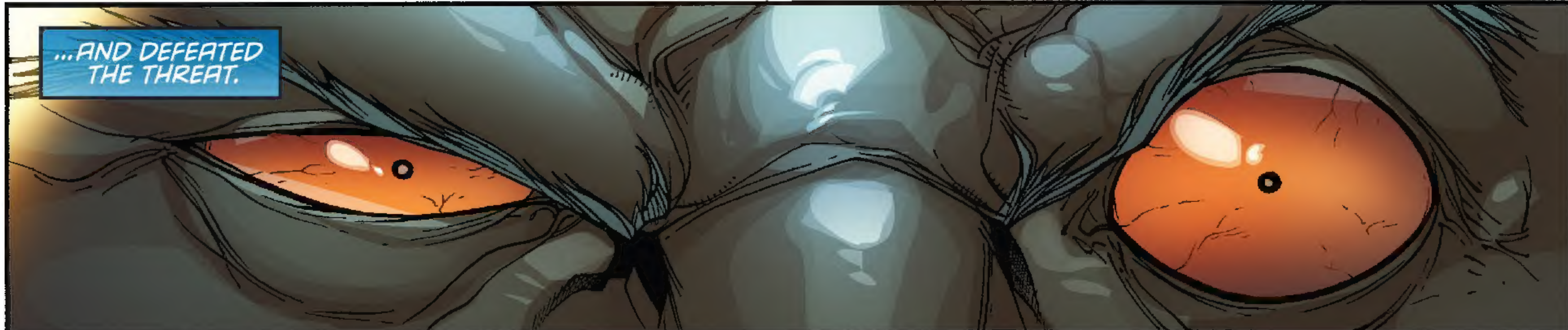
I KNOW,
SON.

WE'VE BEEN ATTACKED
IN NEARLY EVERY
CONCEIVABLE WAY...

BADBOOM



AND EACH TIME
THE AVENGERS
HAVE ANSWERED
THE CALL...



...AND DEFEATED
THE THREAT.

BUT TODAY
THE AVENGERS ARE
THE THREAT.

THE HULK JUST
DESTROYED ONE OF
THE LAST REMAINING
DRIVE-IN MOVIE
THEATERS IN ARIZONA.

THE ENTIRE
WORLD BURNS...

AND WHAT ARE
THE HEROES DOING?

NOTHING.

STARK IS DRINKING
MANHATTANS IN
SAN FRANCISCO AND
PEDDLING EXTREMIS--
A THREAT HE ONCE
VOWED TO ERADICATE.

OUR ALLIES
ARE LOST, THEIR
MORAL COMPASS
SPINNING WITHOUT
A TRUE NORTH.

SOMETHING
HAPPENED
ON GENOSHA
THAT CHANGED
EVERYONE ON
THE ISLAND.

A FEW OLD
ADVERSARIES
WERE CHANGED
FOR THE
BETTER...

...WHILE
OTHERS
WERE CHANGED
FOR THE WORSE.

INCLUDING THIS NEW
VILE MONSTER INSIDE
THIS INTELLIGENT HULK,
"DOC GREEN"...

...I DIDN'T LIKE
HIM BEFORE HIS
MORALS WERE
COMPROMISED.

NOW HE'S
DESTROYING
EVERYTHING
IN HIS PATH.



NEW YORK CITY'S
MOST FAMOUS
LANDMARK, THE
AVENGERS MANSION...

WAIT.
BACK UP A
SEC, MISTER
ROGERS.

ARE YOU
TELLING ME
THE HULK HAS...
AN EVEN *BIGGER*
AND *MEANER*
HULK HIDING
INSIDE HIM?!

YES.

YEESH, THE
HULK REALLY
IS THE WORLD'S
WORST RUSSIAN
NESTING DOLL.

WHAT WOULD TRIGGER AN
INVERTED HULK TO REVERT
TO BANNER?

WHAT'S THE
OPPOSITE OF
RAGE? HUGS?
SPOONING?

I'LL
TURN THIS
PLANET TO
DUST.

HMM. WHERE
DID WE HIDE THE
INFINITY GAUNTLET?

GUYS!
THE HULK IS
NEARING MY
HOMETOWN!

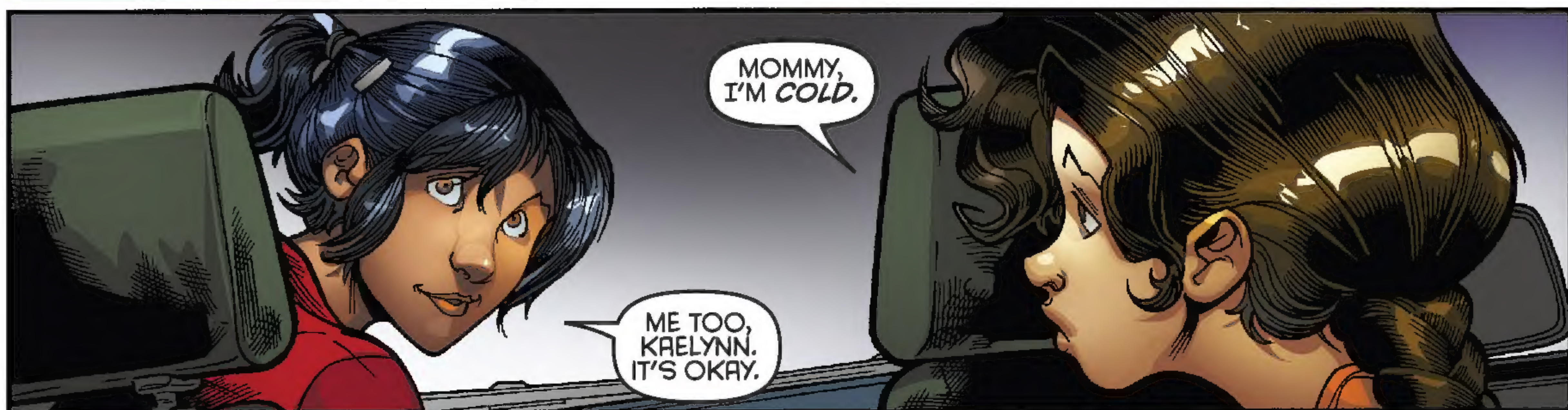
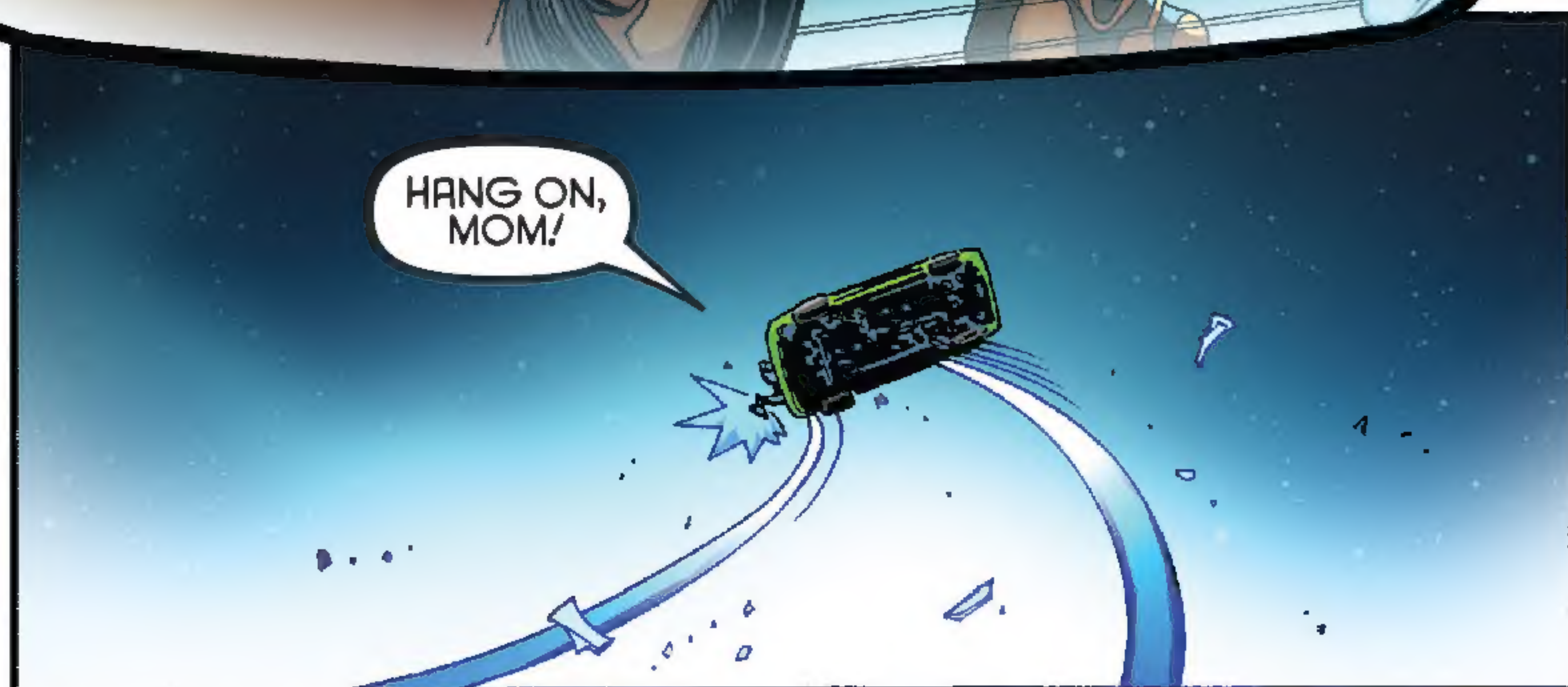
I KNOW,
SAM, BUT WE
NEED TO HAVE
A PLAN.

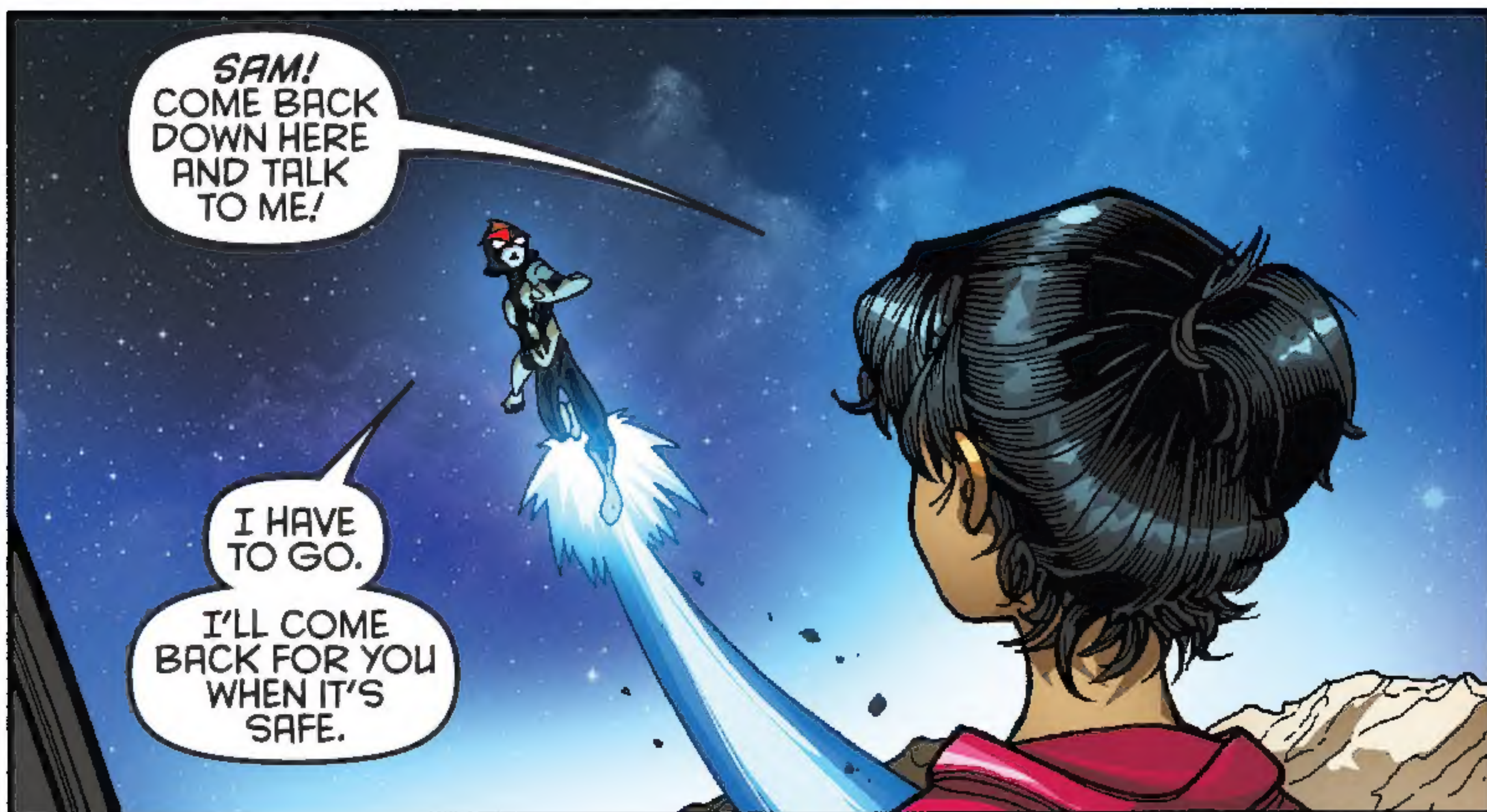
YEAH,
DON'T GET ANY
BRIGHT IDEAS,
NOVA.

THAT'S ONE
PROBLEM I ALMOST
NEVER HAVE,
SPIDEY.

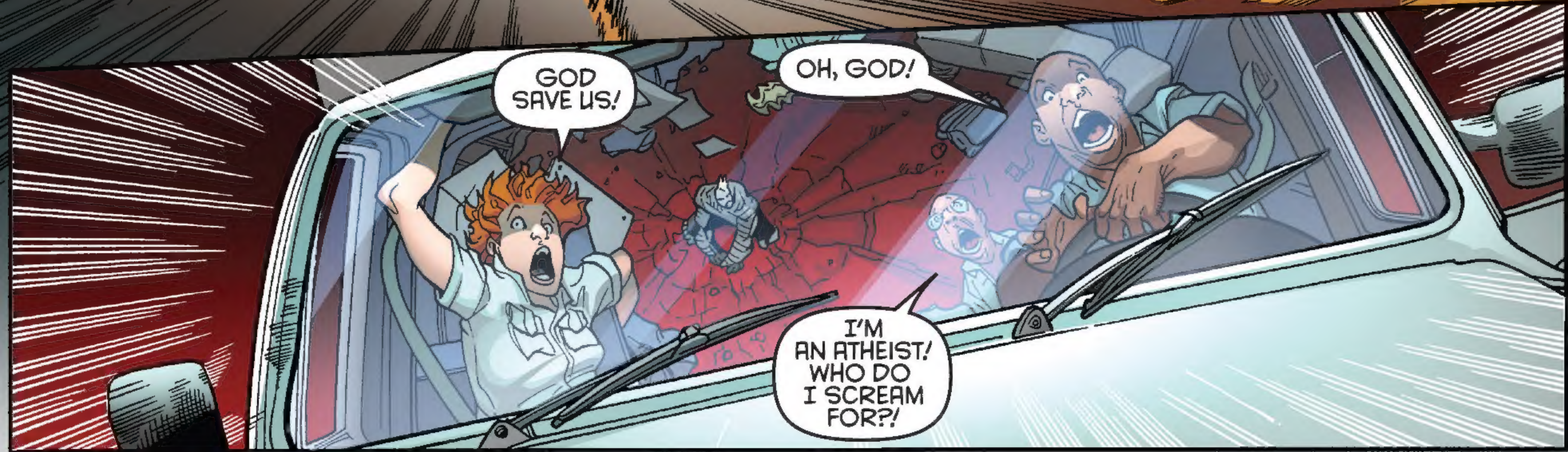
SORRY
GUYS, MY MOM
AND SISTER ARE IN
HULK'S PATH.

NOVA!
STOP! COME
BACK!





WAR ZONE:
CAREFREE, ARIZONA

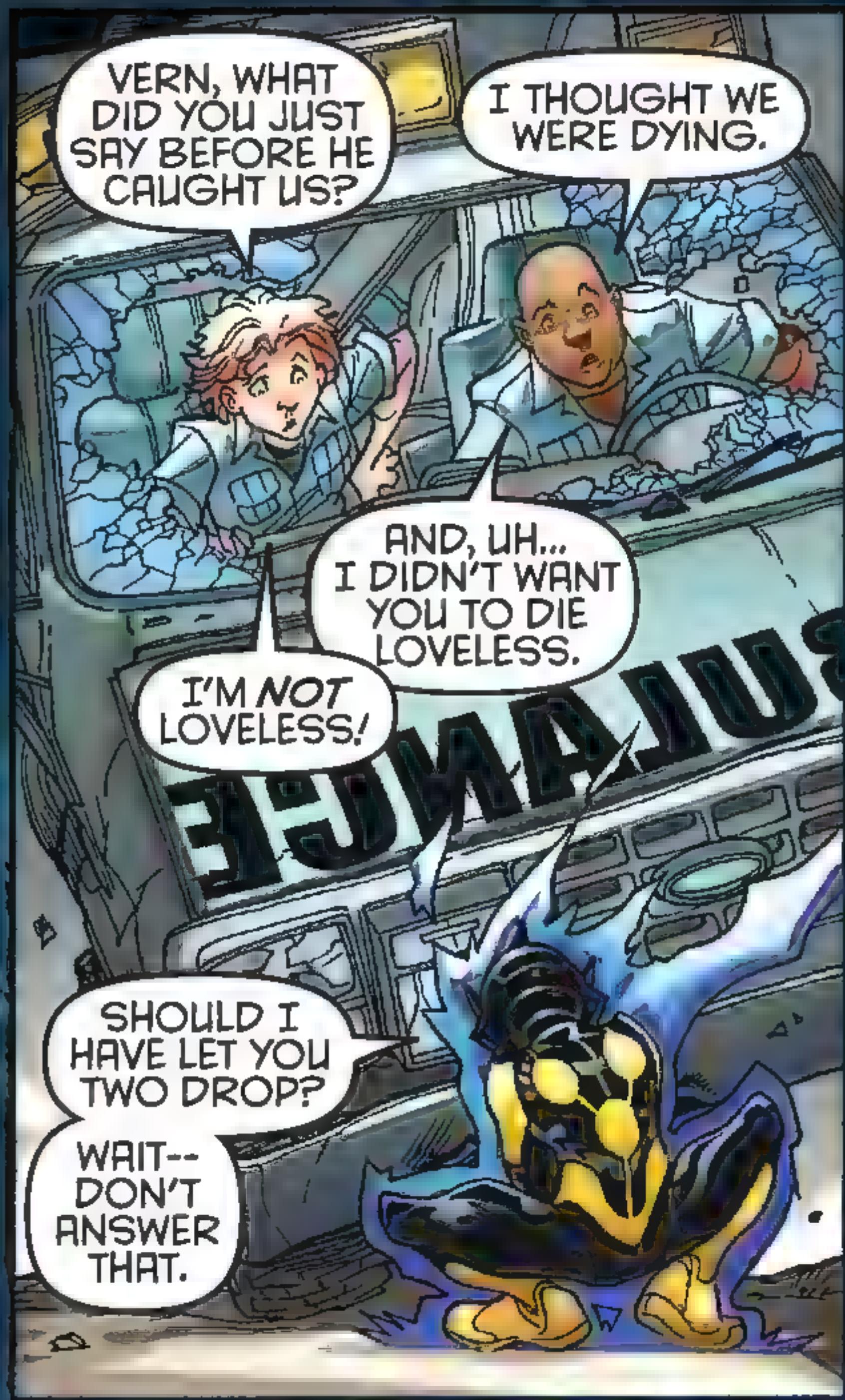




HOLY--

THANKS.

EVERYBODY
OKAY?



VERN, WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY BEFORE HE CAUGHT US?

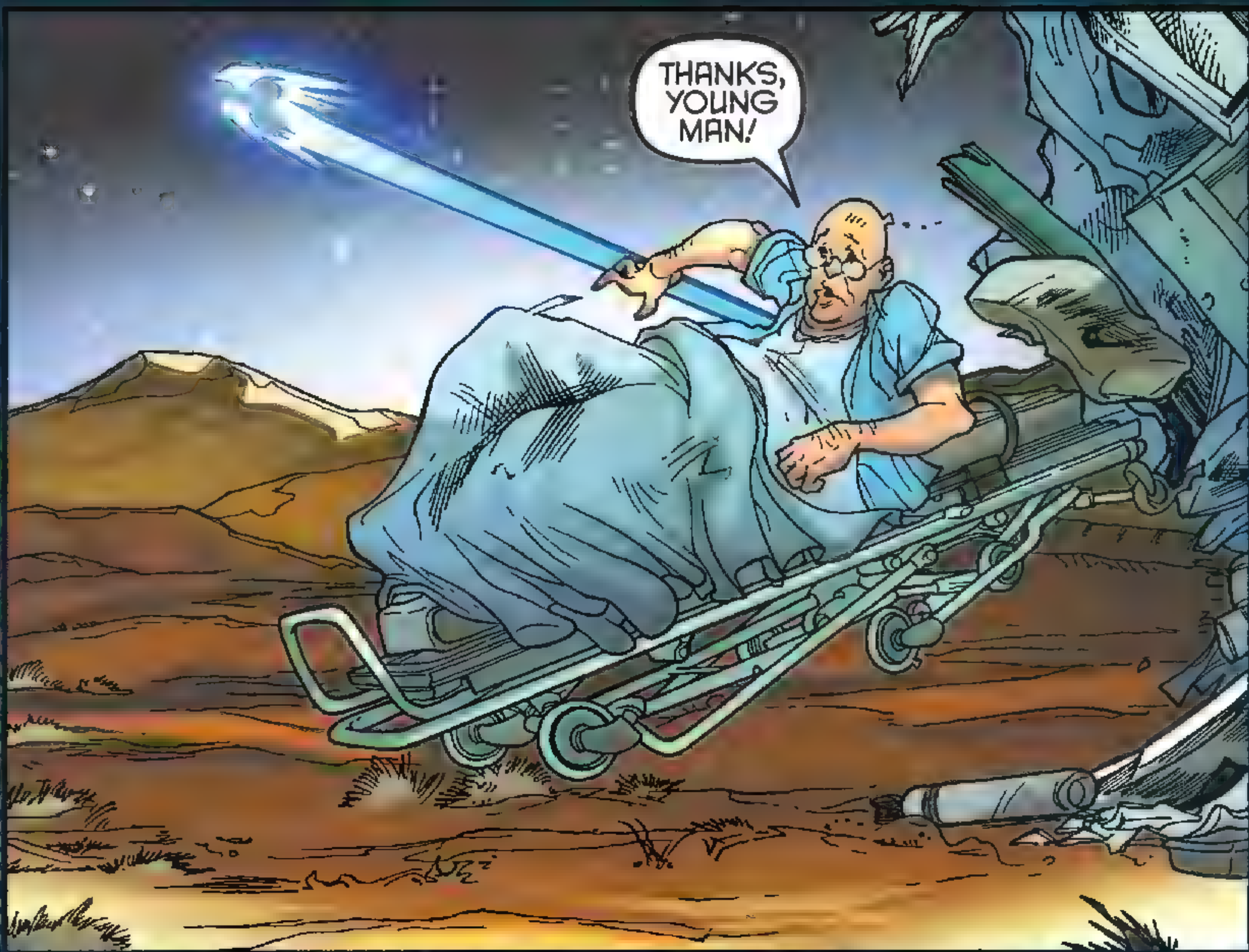
I THOUGHT WE WERE DYING.

AND, UH... I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO DIE LOVELESS.

I'M NOT LOVELESS!

SHOULD I HAVE LET YOU TWO DROP?

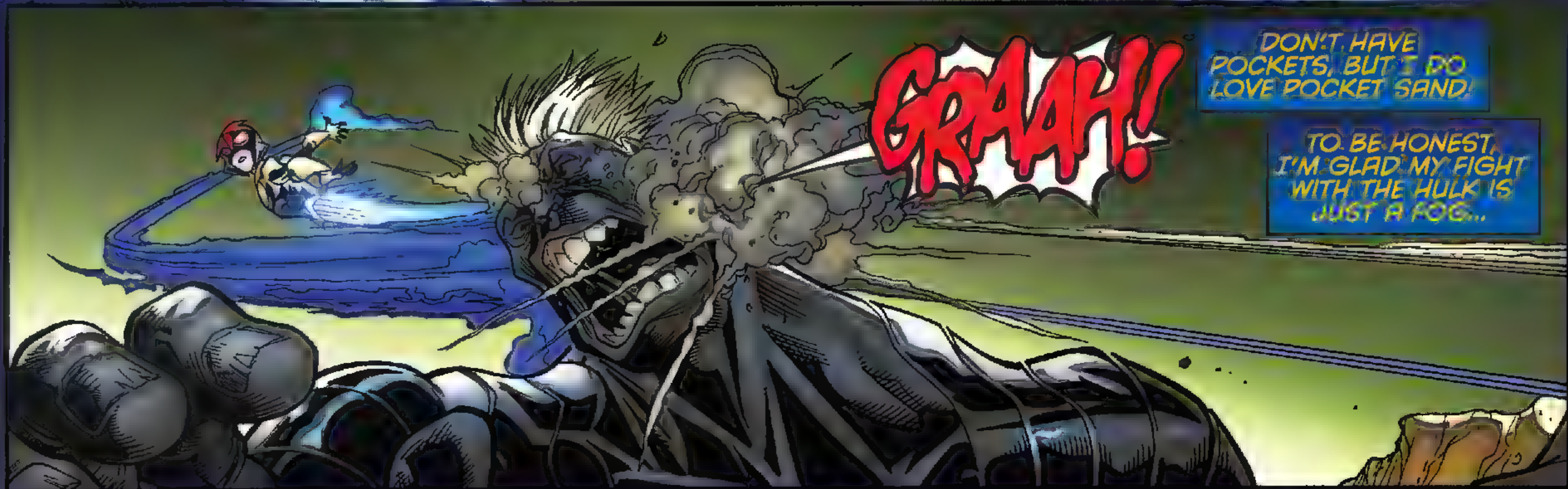
WAIT-- DON'T ANSWER THAT.



THANKS, YOUNG MAN!

I CAN'T REALLY RECALL THE DETAILS OF THAT DAY VERY WELL FOR REASONS THAT WILL SOON BE OBVIOUS...

BUT I REMEMBER I STARTED OUT WITH SOME OLD SKOOL KUNG-FU TRICKERY.



GRAAH!

DON'T HAVE POCKETS, BUT I DO LOVE POCKET SAND!

TO BE HONEST, I'M GLAD MY FIGHT WITH THE HULK IS JUST A FOG...

I CAN KIND OF REMEMBER TALKING TO THE MONSTER.

YOU'RE THE NEW NOVA!

SAME AS THE OLD NOVA!

WHY DON'T YOU JUST CHILL OUT?

WHAT AN IDIOT...

BECAUSE SOON YOU'LL BE DEAD.

HA-HA-HA.

HEY, NOVA! GO DEEP.

NO, PLEASE!

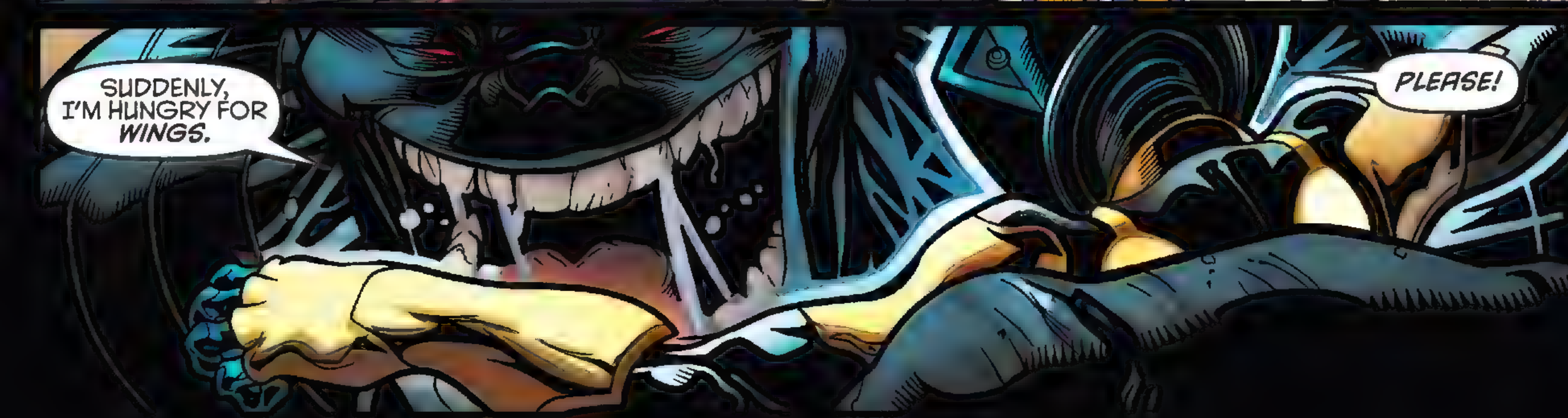
OH, NO!

THE ONLY THING I REMEMBER CLEARLY FROM THAT DAY WAS MOVING FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF SOUND, BUT SEEING EVERYTHING IN SLOW MOTION...

THAT'S HOW I KNEW I WAS HAVING A NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCE.



RRRAAAARRGH!





CHOMP

SPARKY

YEAAAAA

WHEN I GET INTO TROUBLE, I THINK ABOUT MY DAD.



UHN. UHN. GOD.

NOT JUST BECAUSE HE WAS A SCREW-UP LIKE ME, BUT BECAUSE HE USUALLY HAD SOME PRETTY GOOD ADVICE.

MOMMY

NOT ALL THE TIME, BUT OCCASIONALLY HE DID LEAVE WITH ME WITH ONE PEARL OF WISDOM. THAT'S REALLY HELPED ME.

MY DAD ALWAYS SAID
"SON, WHEN YOU'RE
CONFRONTED BY A BULLY"

AND YOU CAN'T TALK
YOUR WAY OUT OF IT,
OR JUST WALK AWAY.

GET
OFFA
ME!

WHA?

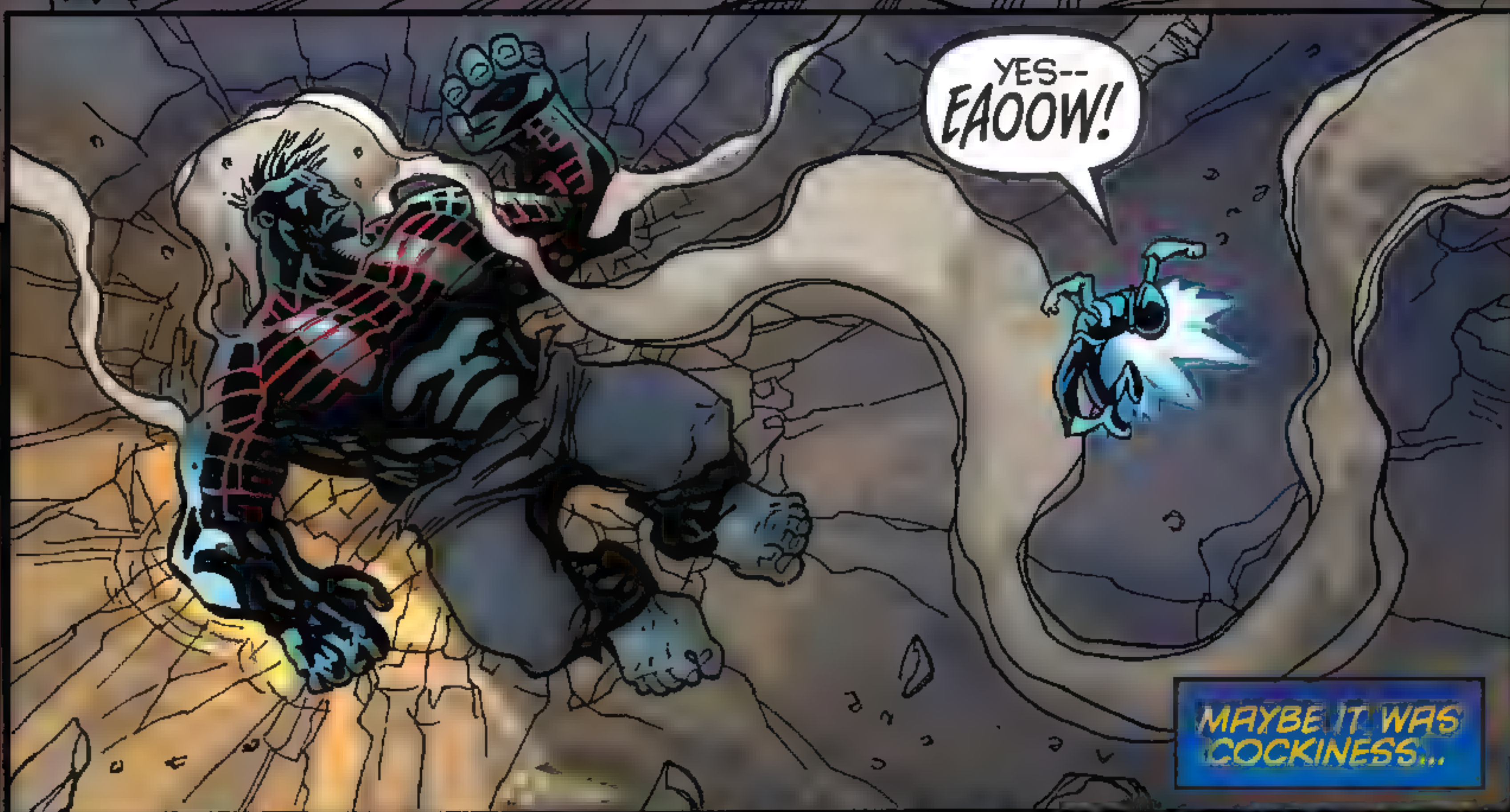
THEN YOU JUST
GOTTA WIND UP...



FWASH! BADA BOOM

...AND PUNCH HIM
RIGHT IN THE NOSE.

I DON'T KNOW
WHY I DIDN'T
JUST FLY AWAY
RIGHT THERE.



YES--
EAOOW!

MAYBE IT WAS
COCKINESS...



OW.

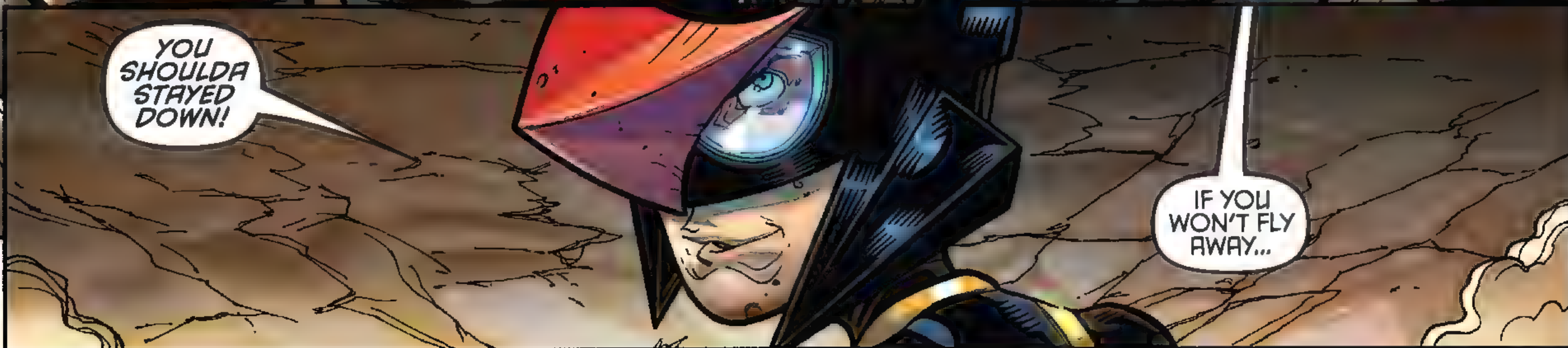
...OR MAYBE IT WAS
THE SHOCK THAT
WAS SETTING IN FROM
MY BROKEN ARM...



THAT WAS
IMPRESSIVE,
BOY.

BUT I STOOD
MY GROUND.

I JUST
REMEMBER WANTING
CAPTAIN AMERICA
AND SPIDER-MAN TO
BE PROUD OF ME.



YOU
SHOULDA
STAYED
DOWN!

IF YOU
WON'T FLY
AWAY...

I'LL
MAKE
YOU!

I DON'T
REMEMBER
THE HIT.

BUT IT
CHANGED
MY LIFE.



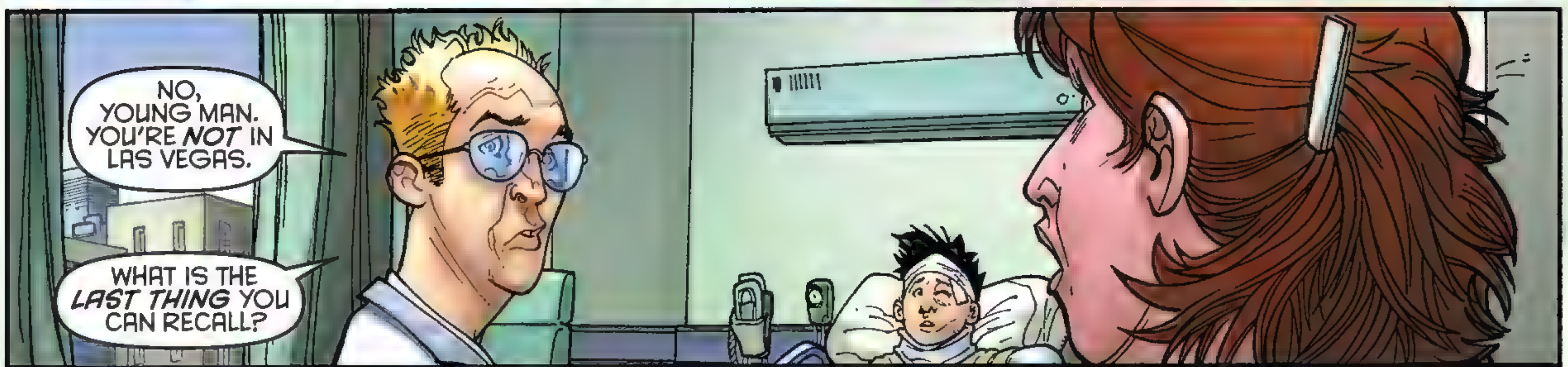
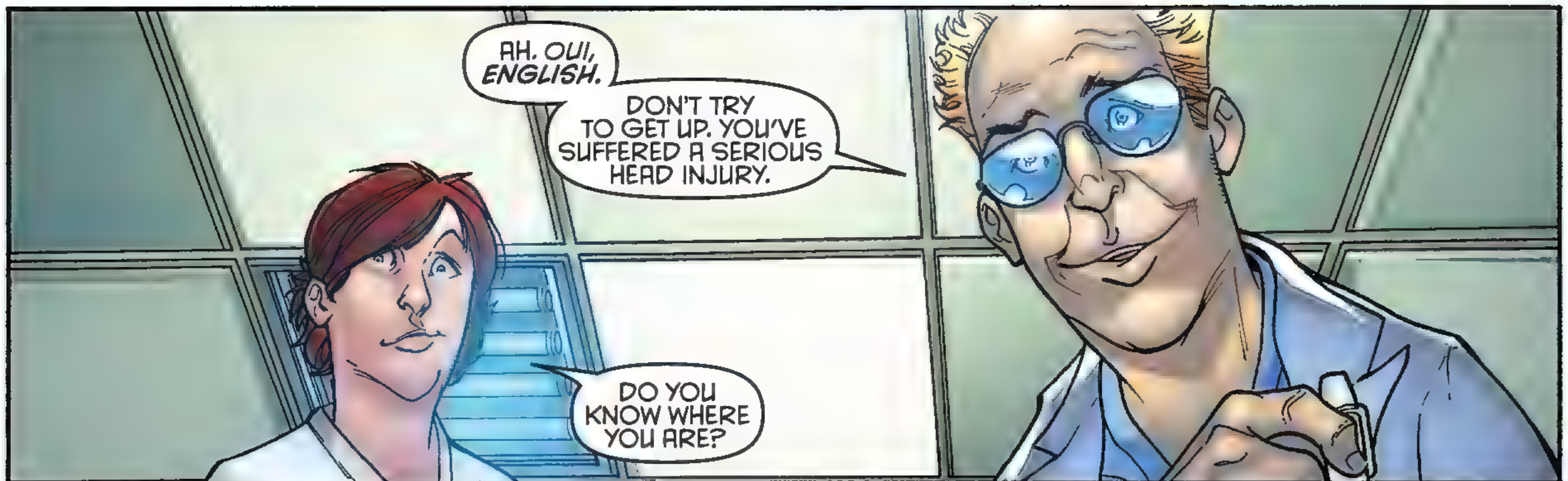
FIRST RULE OF SKATE BOARDING:
WHEN YOU'RE IN THE AIR, AND
THERE'S NO BOARD UNDER YOUR FEET,
KEEP YOUR HANDS UP.

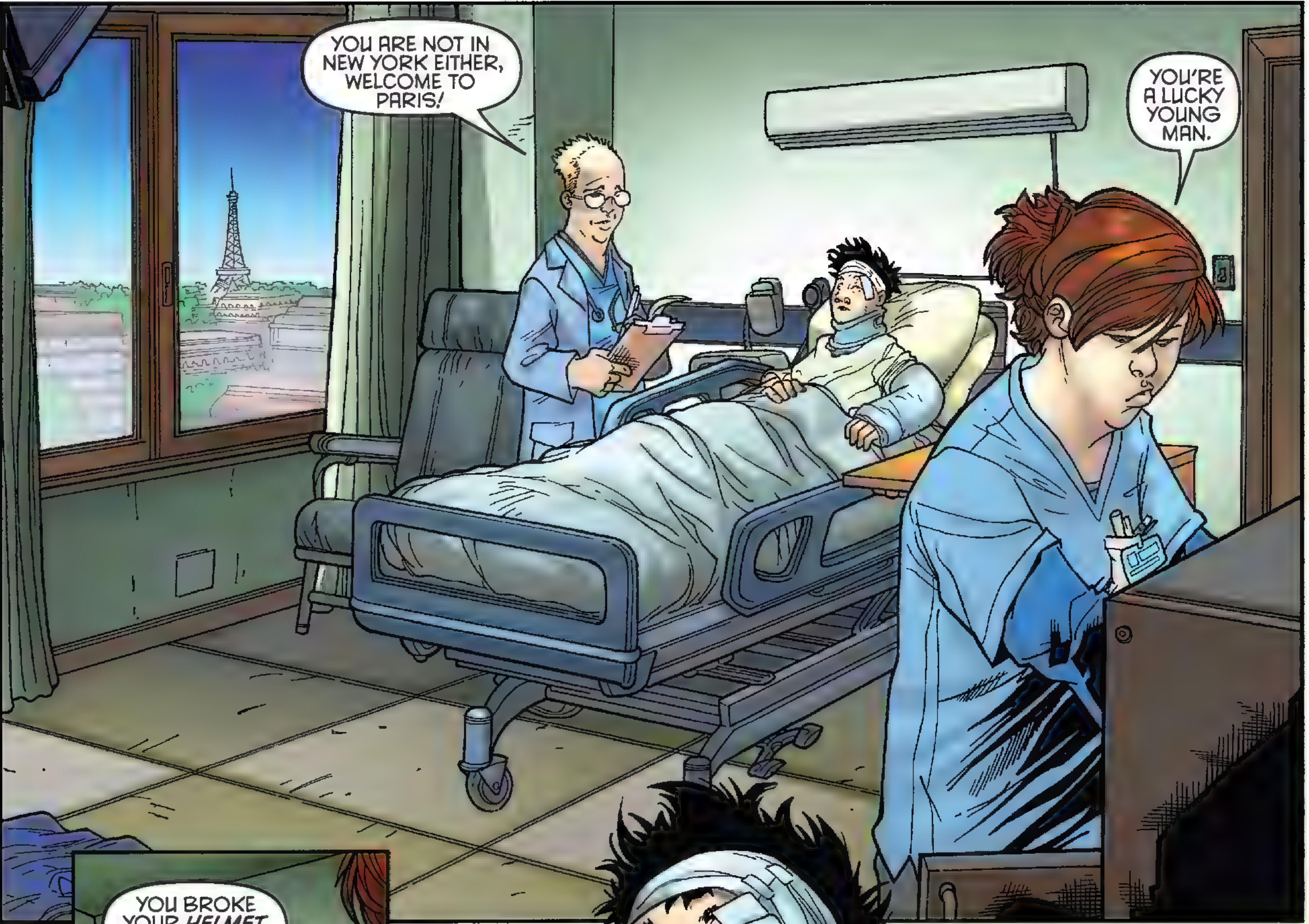
PROTECT YOUR HEAD.

I'VE SEEN
THE FOOTAGE.
I WENT INTO
THE TOWER
HEAD FIRST.

PLEASE
TURN OFF
THE TV.

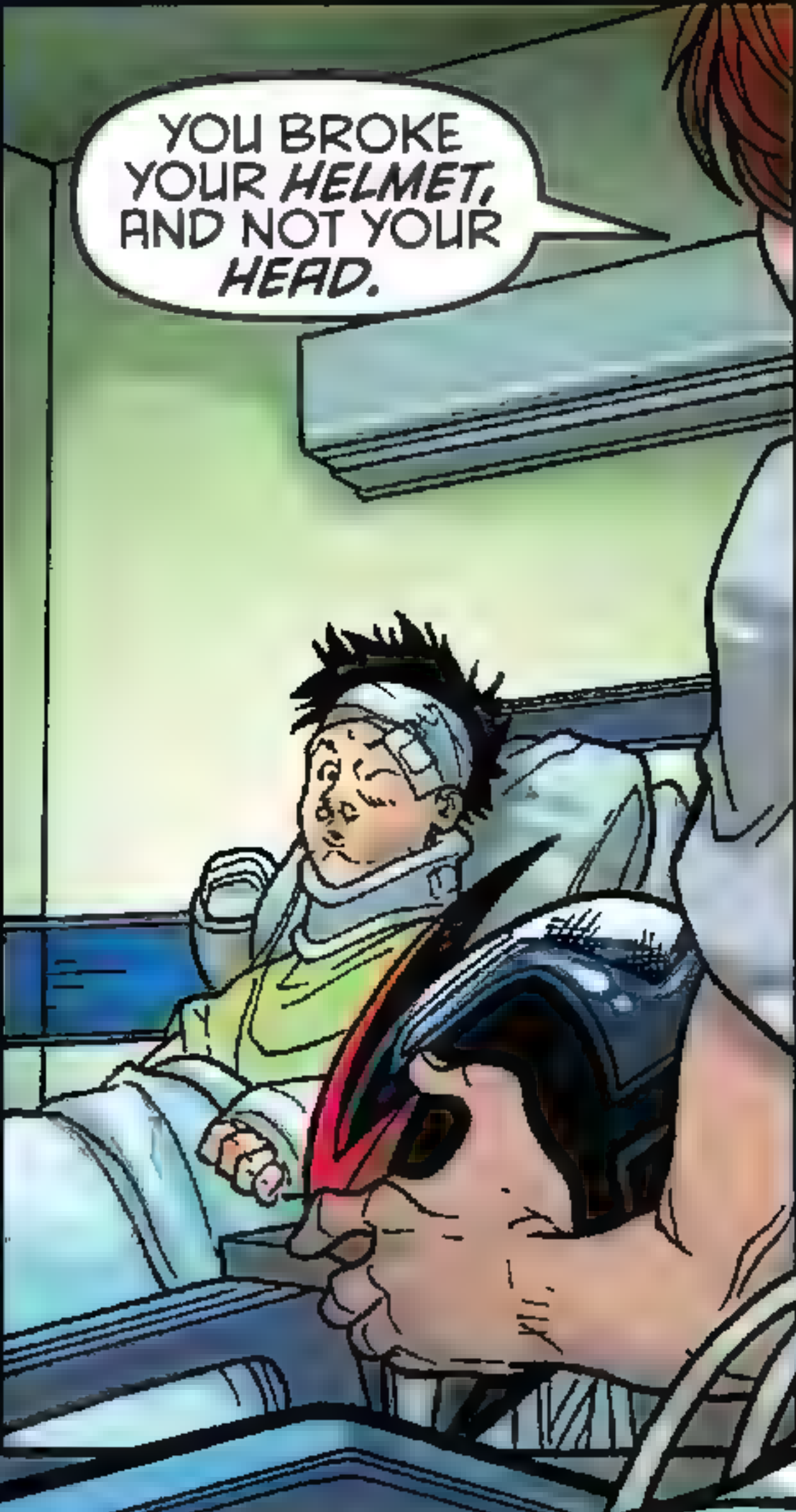
PLEASE.





YOU ARE NOT IN
NEW YORK EITHER,
WELCOME TO
PARIS!

YOU'RE
A LUCKY
YOUNG
MAN.



YOU BROKE
YOUR *HELMET*,
AND NOT YOUR
HEAD.



TO BE CONCLUDED...IN NOVA 24
"WOULDN'T MAMA BE PROUD"

NOVA



MARVEL

DUGGAN
BALDEON
PALLOT
CURIEL

024

NOVA

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Sam Alexander's father, Jesse, used to tell him stories about the intergalactic Nova Corps, a peacekeeping force throughout the galaxy. Sam always thought these stories were just that – stories – until one day his father went missing and Sam found his old helmet, becoming the interstellar hero called Nova!

Recently, Nova was with a group of Avengers working to stop a creature known as Red Onslaught – Red Skull wielding the telepathic abilities of the deceased founder of the X-Men, Charles Xavier. The Skull's new abilities were too much for the Avengers somehow, and Nova found himself going toe-to-toe with KLUH, the Hulk's Hulk.

Kluh stormed across the Midwest, putting Sam's hometown, Carefree, Arizona, and his family, in danger. Fifteen year olds aren't meant to go toe-to-toe with Hulks, though, and Sam took a beating. After suffering a broken arm, Nova took a hard hit to the helmet and flew all the way to Paris!



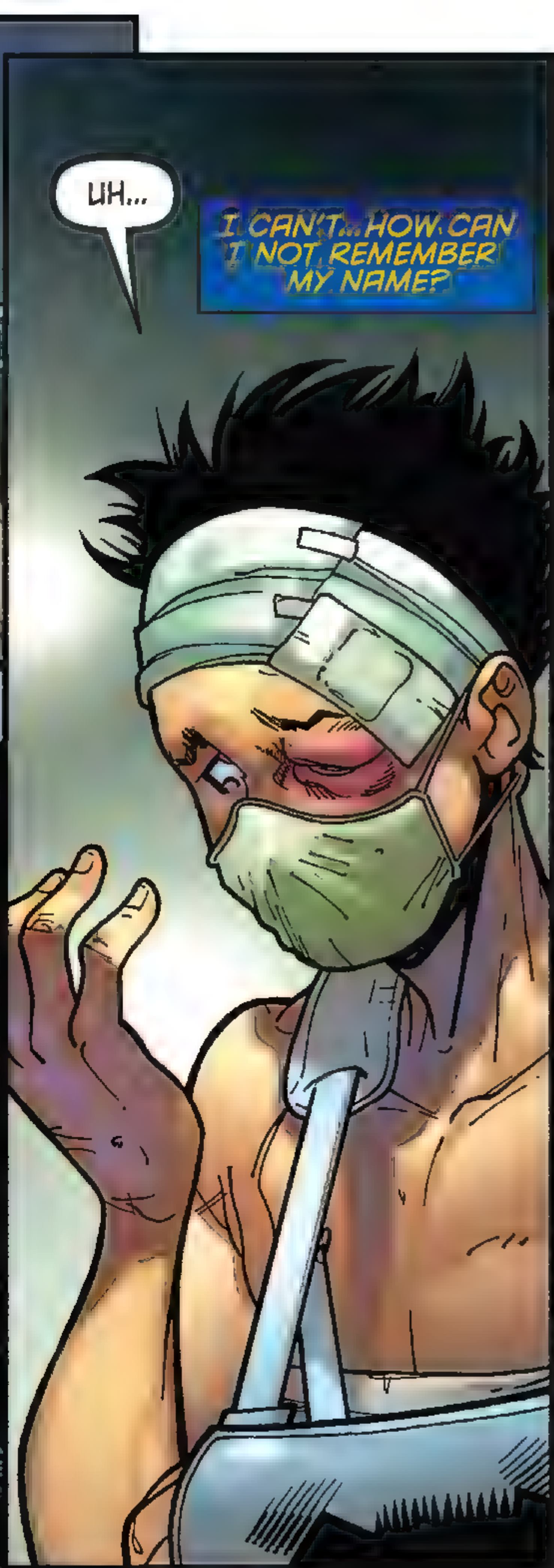
CHAPTER XXIV: STUPIDITY TRIES



YOU DON'T NEED THAT MASK HERE, YOUNG... UH, WHAT IS YOUR NAME?

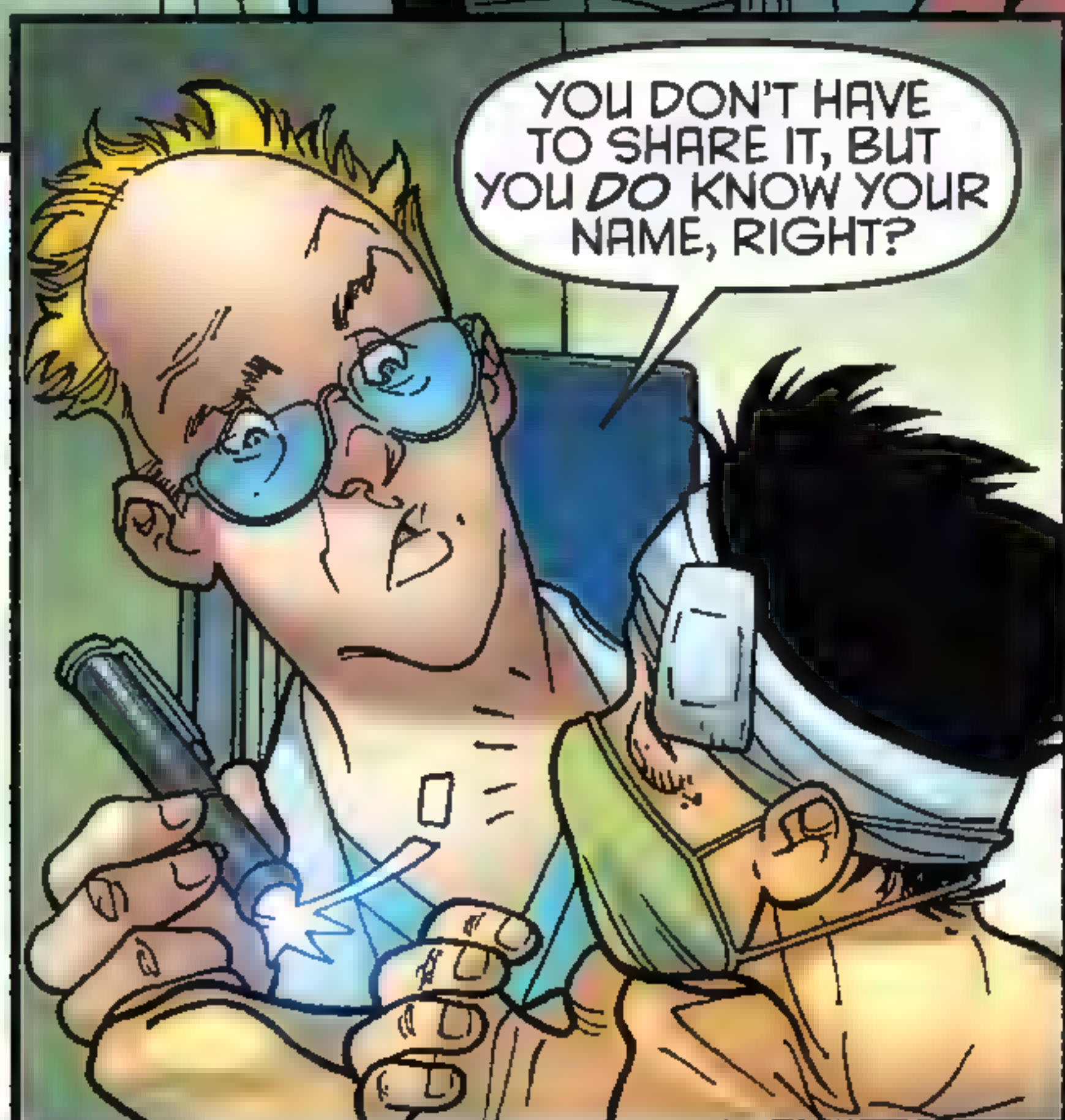
I HAVE A SECRET IDENTITY, AND I CAN'T TELL YOU MY NAME!

IT'S SAM, SAM... WHAT IS MY LAST NAME?



UH...

I CAN'T... HOW CAN I NOT REMEMBER MY NAME?



YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHARE IT, BUT YOU DO KNOW YOUR NAME, RIGHT?



YES. I KNOW MY NAME.

ALEXANDER. MY LAST NAME IS ALEXANDER.

WE HAVE TO HURRY. I HAVE TO GO.

YOU SHOULD BE LYING DOWN.



WERE YOU THIS CRAZY BEFORE THAT MONSTER BEAT YOUR HEAD IN?

YOUR CAST WON'T EVEN BE DRY FOR AT LEAST FIFTEEN MINUTES.

UHN.



LITTLE HELP WITH MY HELMET?

AND CAN YOU TAKE ME TO THE ROOF?

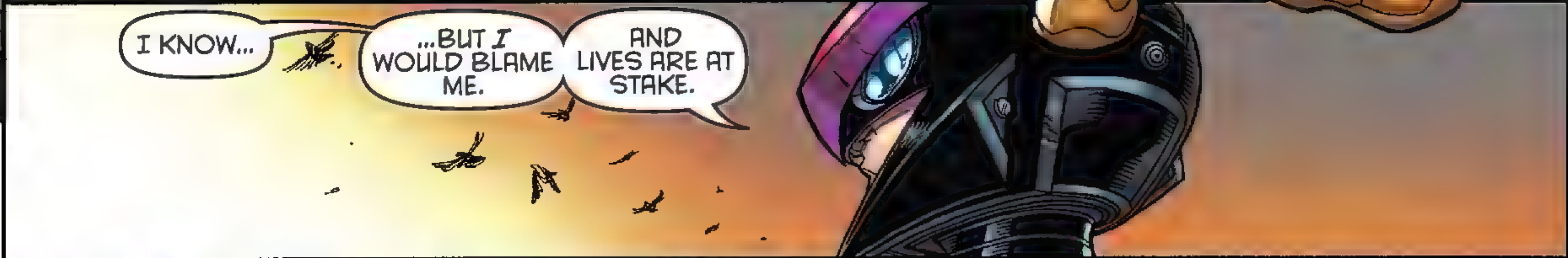


YES! THE
HELMET STILL
WORKS.

NOBODY WILL
BLAME YOU FOR NOT
FACING THAT BEAST,
ESPECIALLY WHILE
YOU'RE INJURED.

OW.

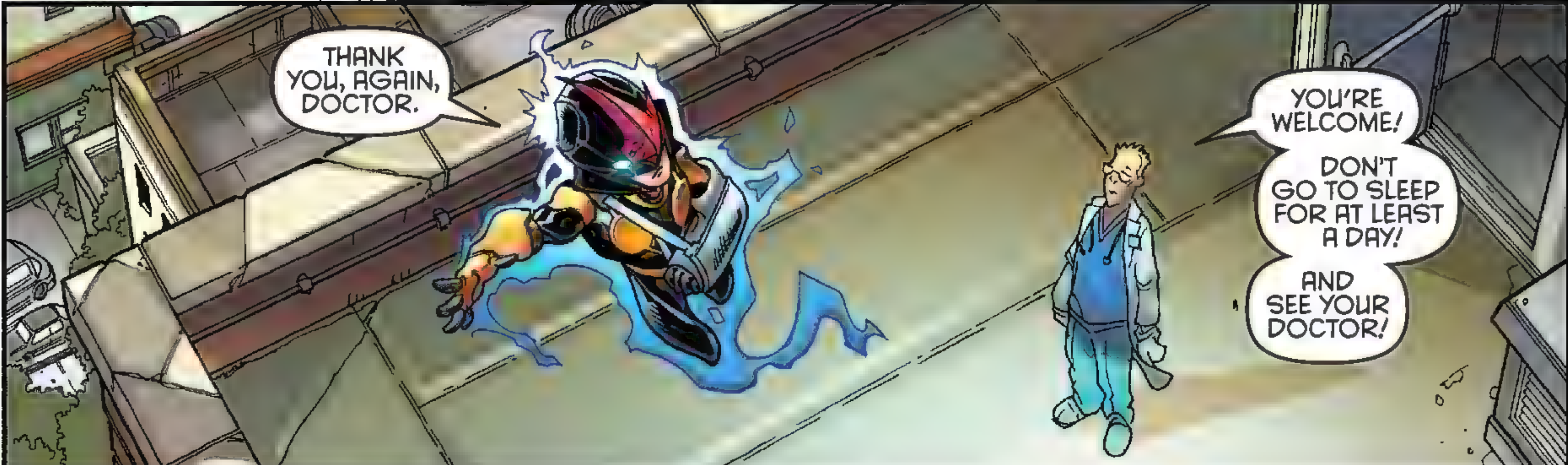
YOUNG
MAN, *PLEASE*
THINK ABOUT
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING.



I KNOW...

...BUT *I*
WOULD BLAME
ME.

AND
LIVES ARE AT
STAKE.

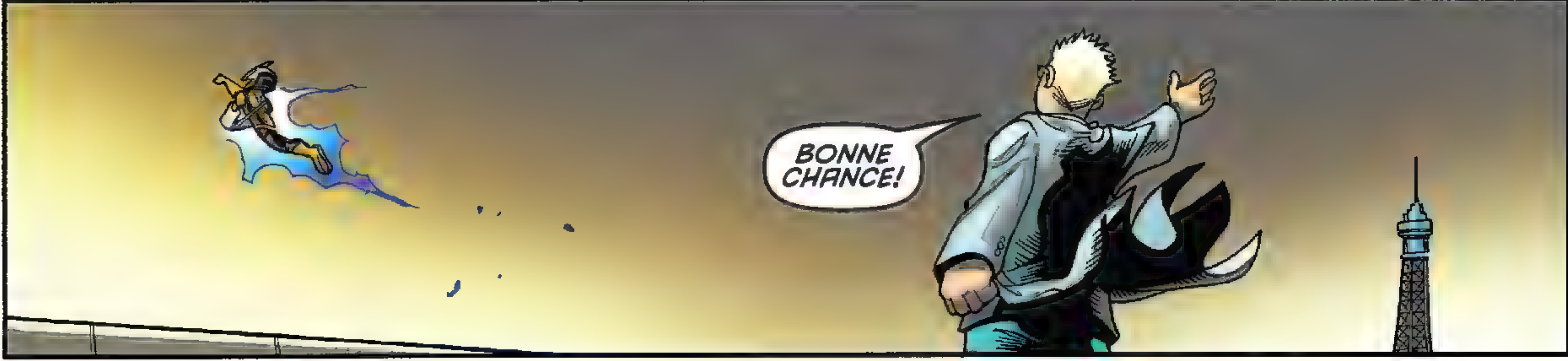


THANK
YOU, AGAIN,
DOCTOR.

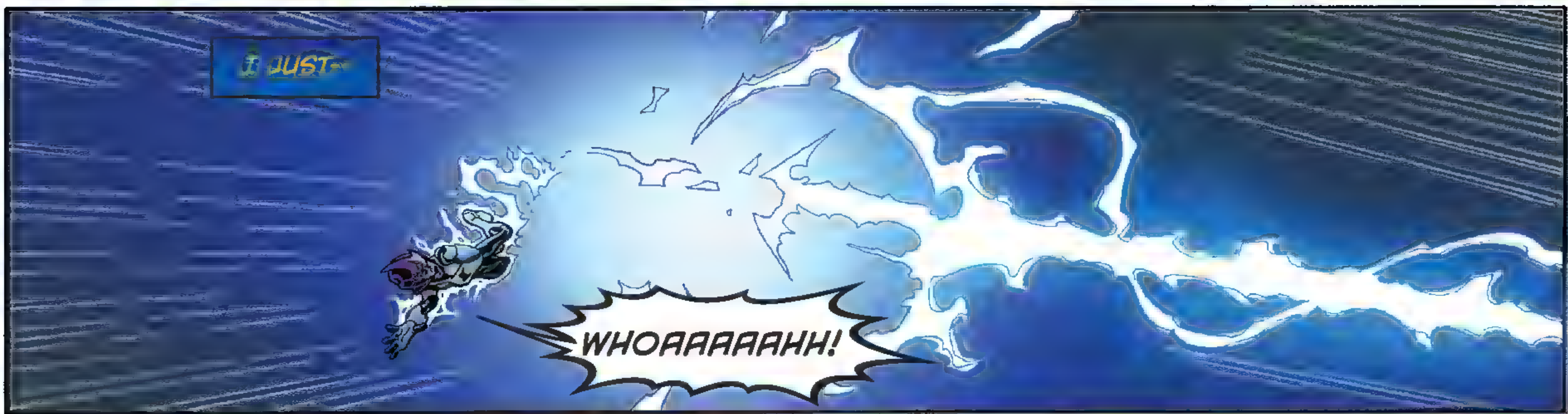
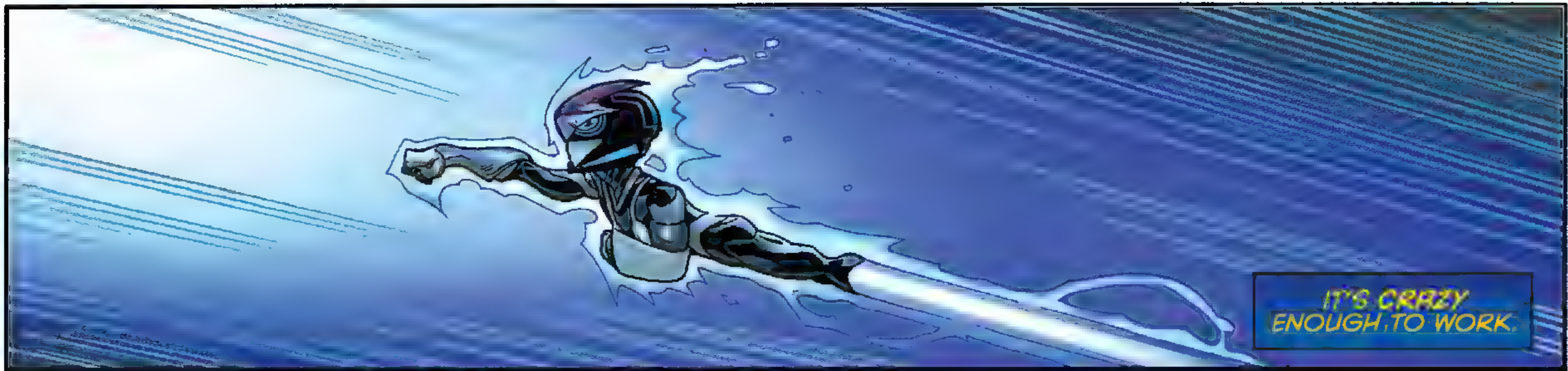
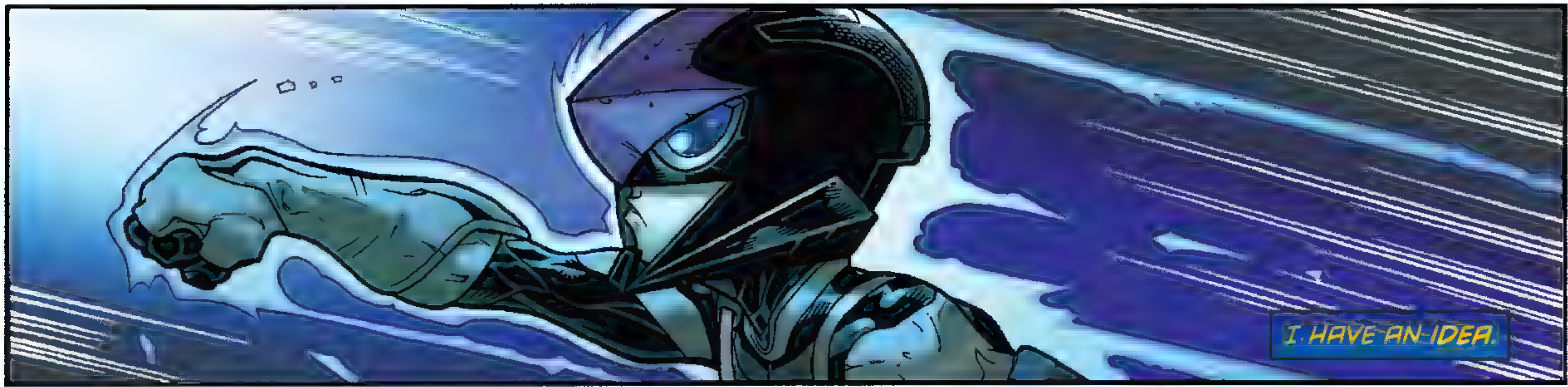
YOU'RE
WELCOME!

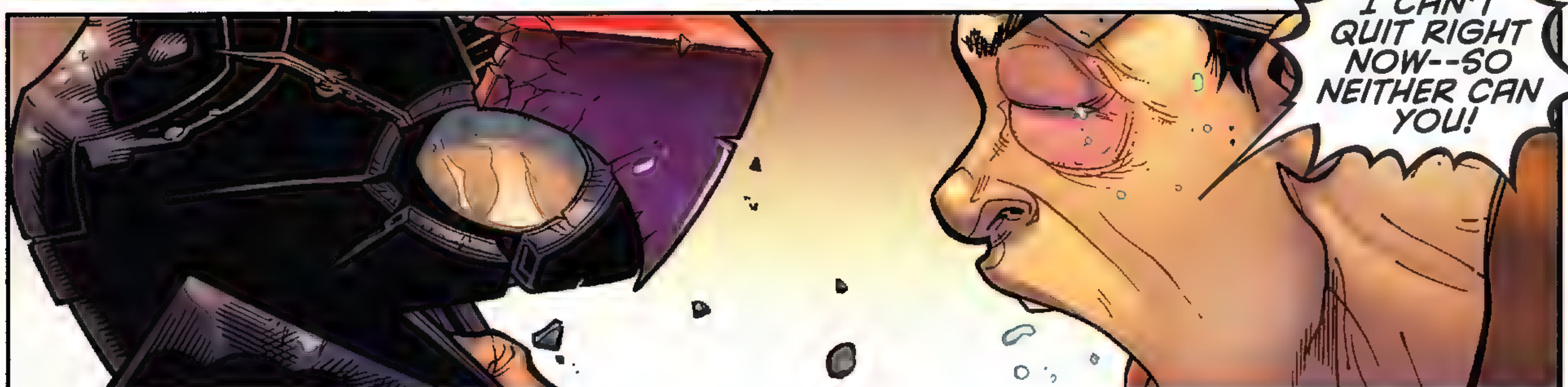
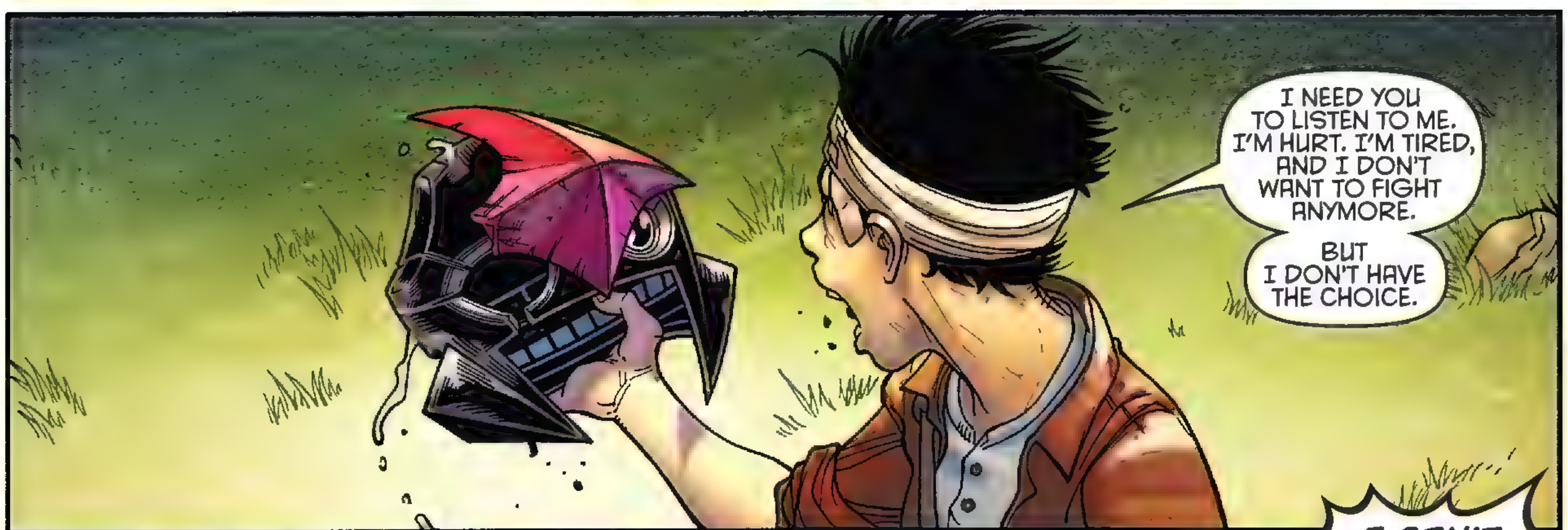
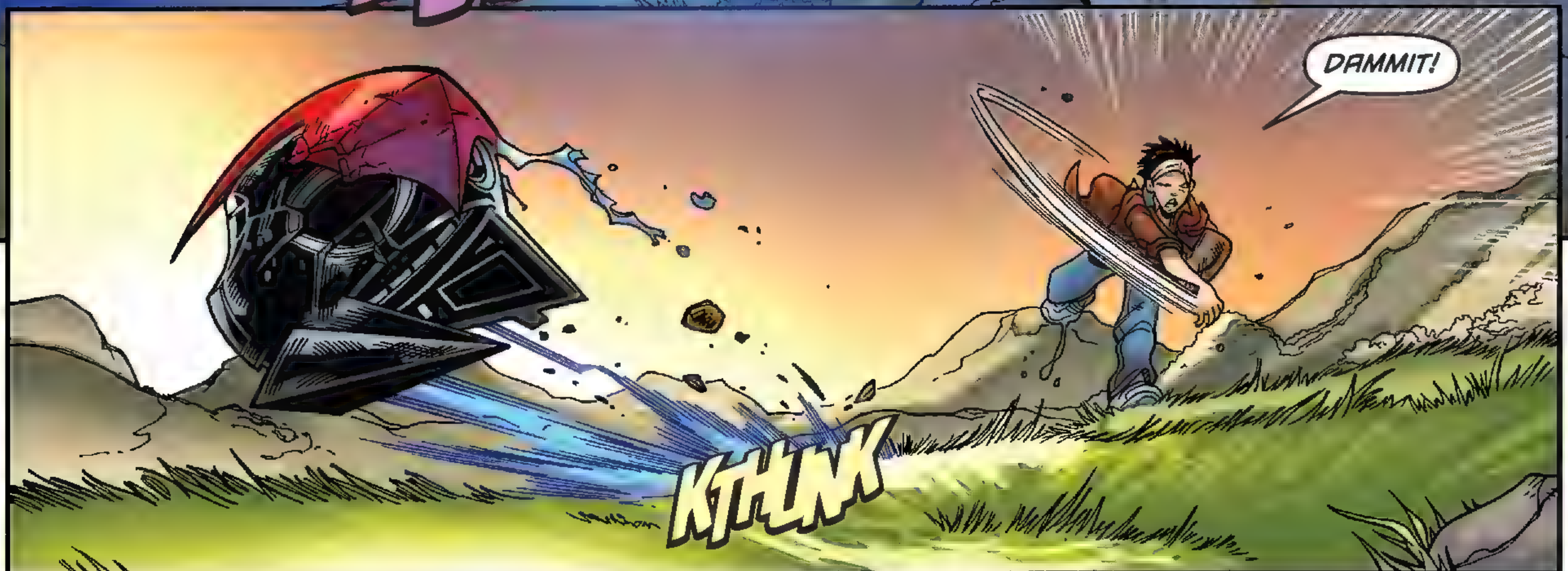
DON'T
GO TO SLEEP
FOR AT LEAST
A DAY!

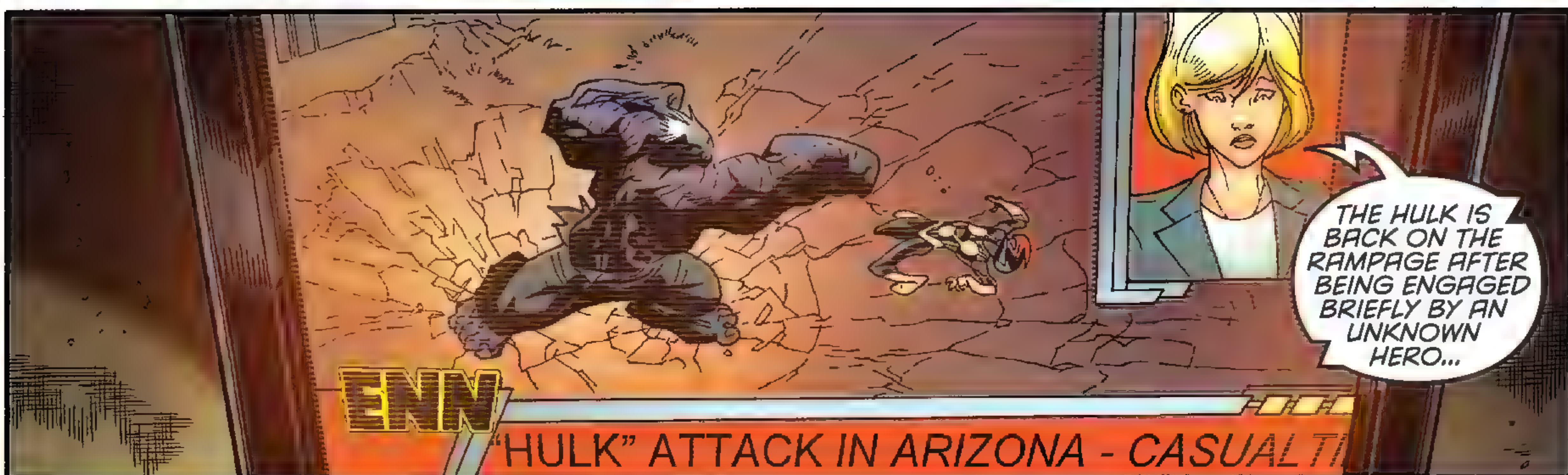
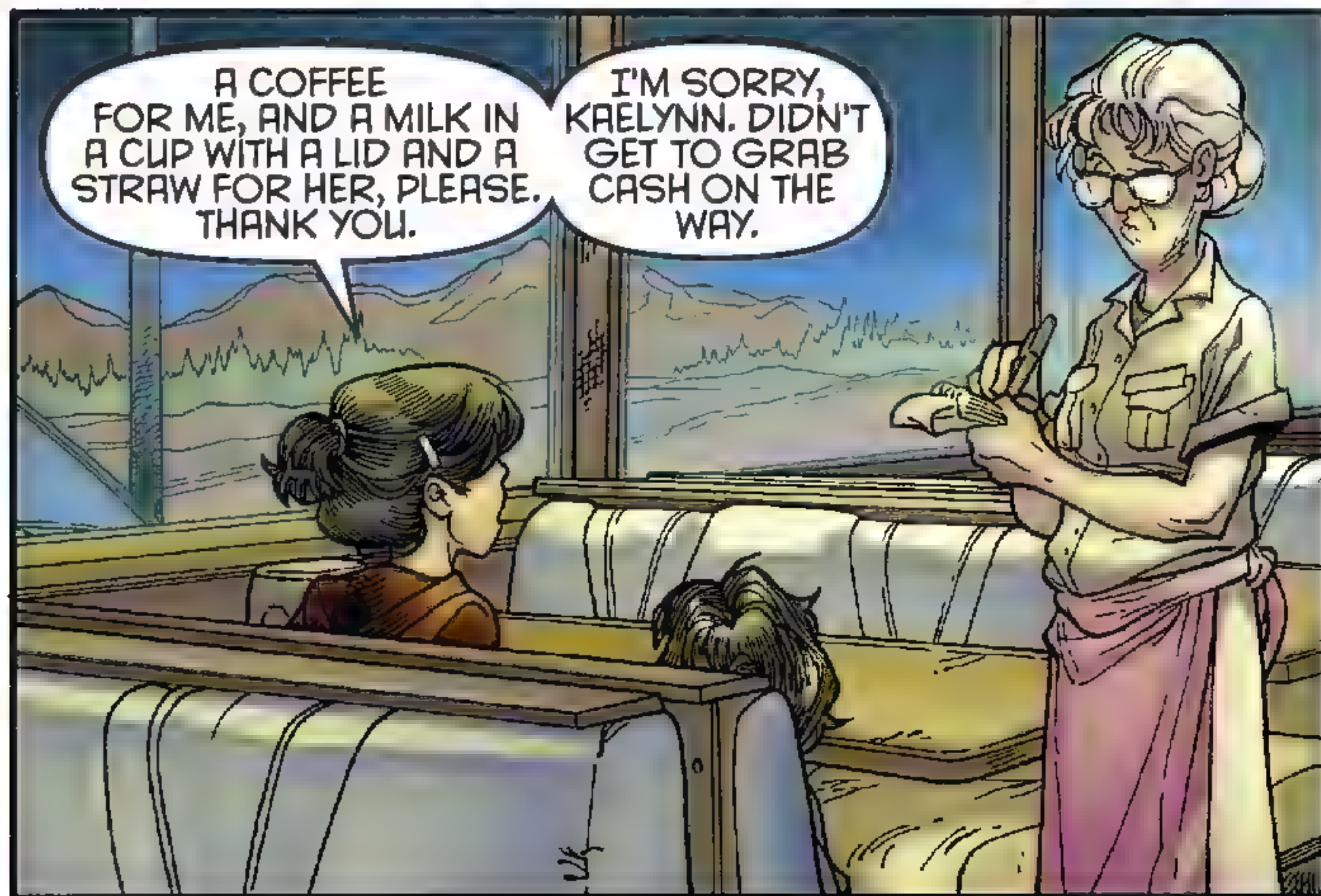
AND
SEE YOUR
DOCTOR!



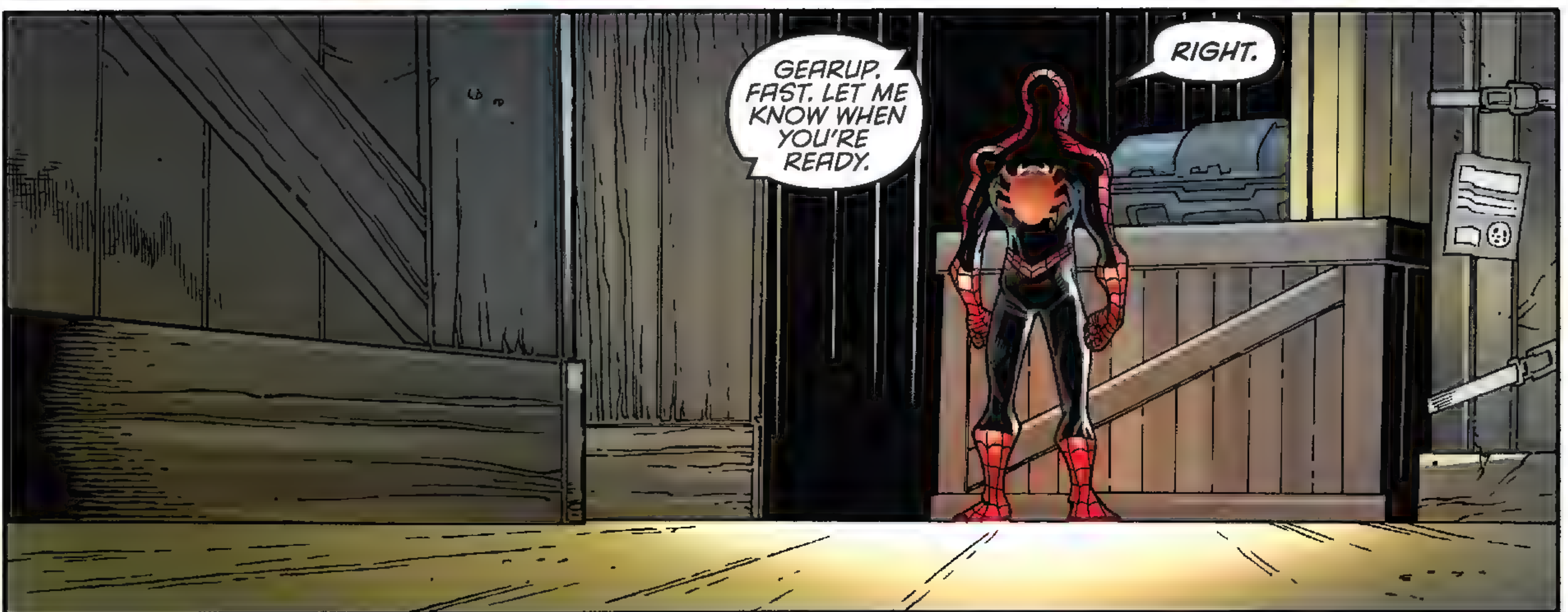
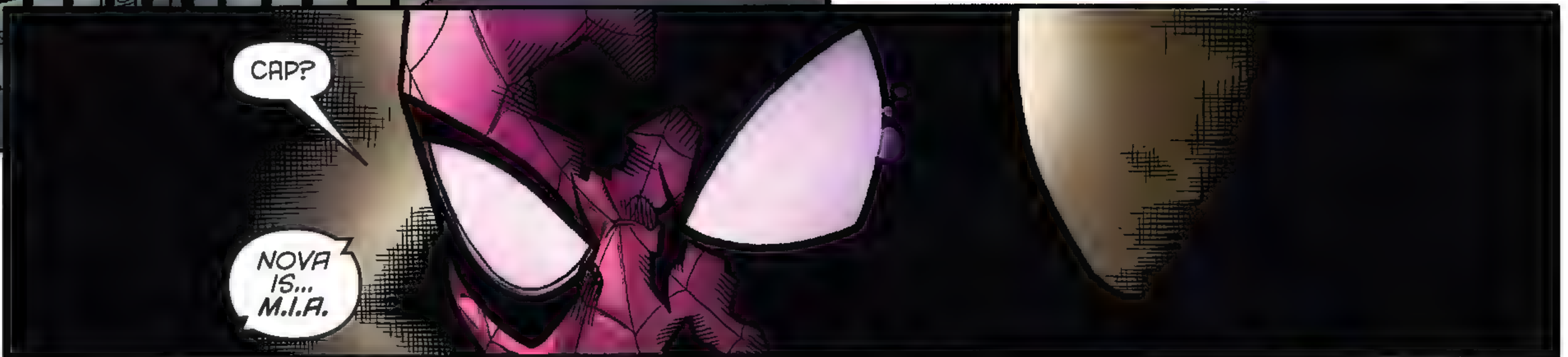
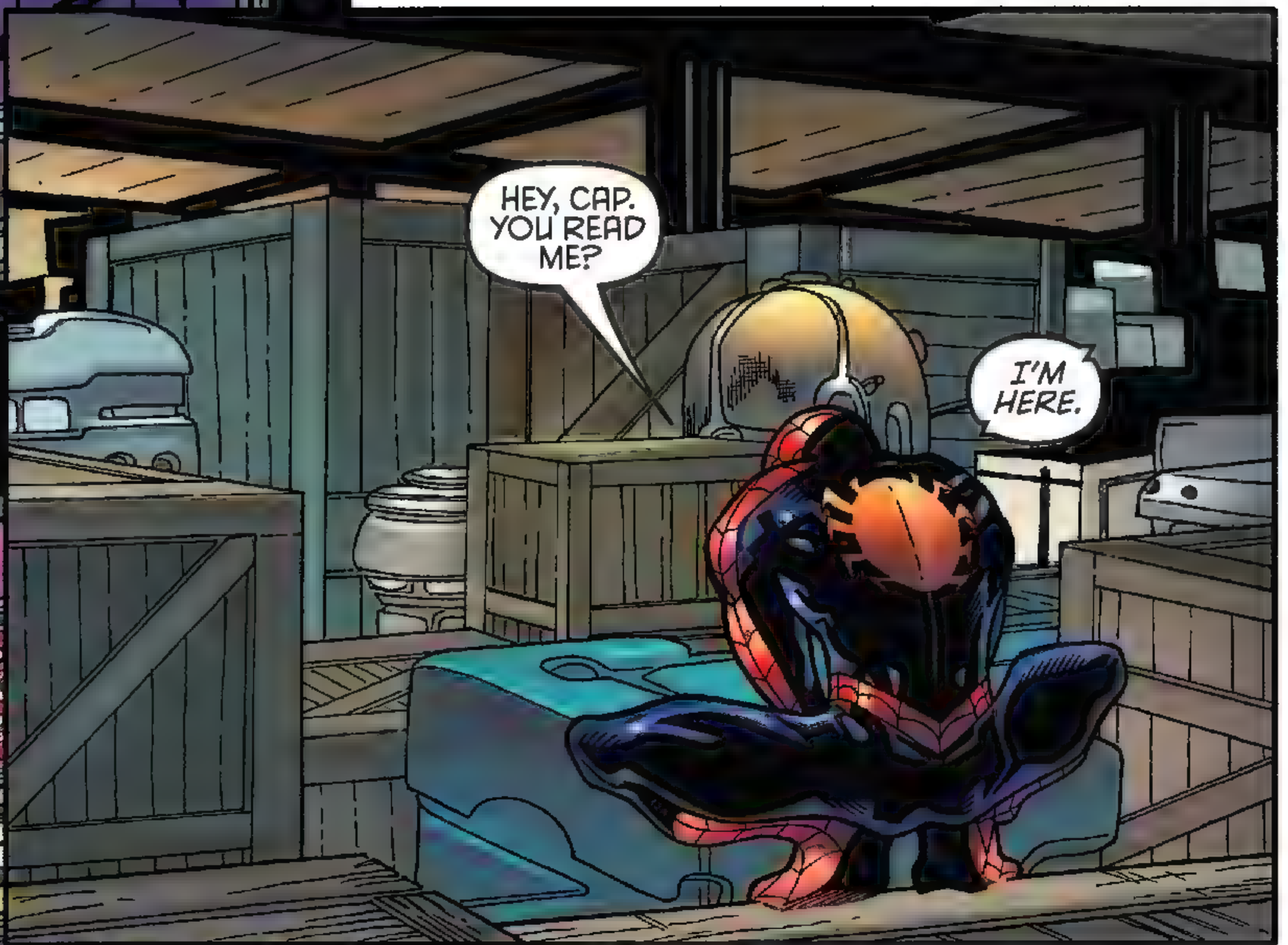
BONNE
CHANCE!







MEANWHILE AT A
S.H.I.E.L.D. WAREHOUSE
IN NEW YORK CITY...



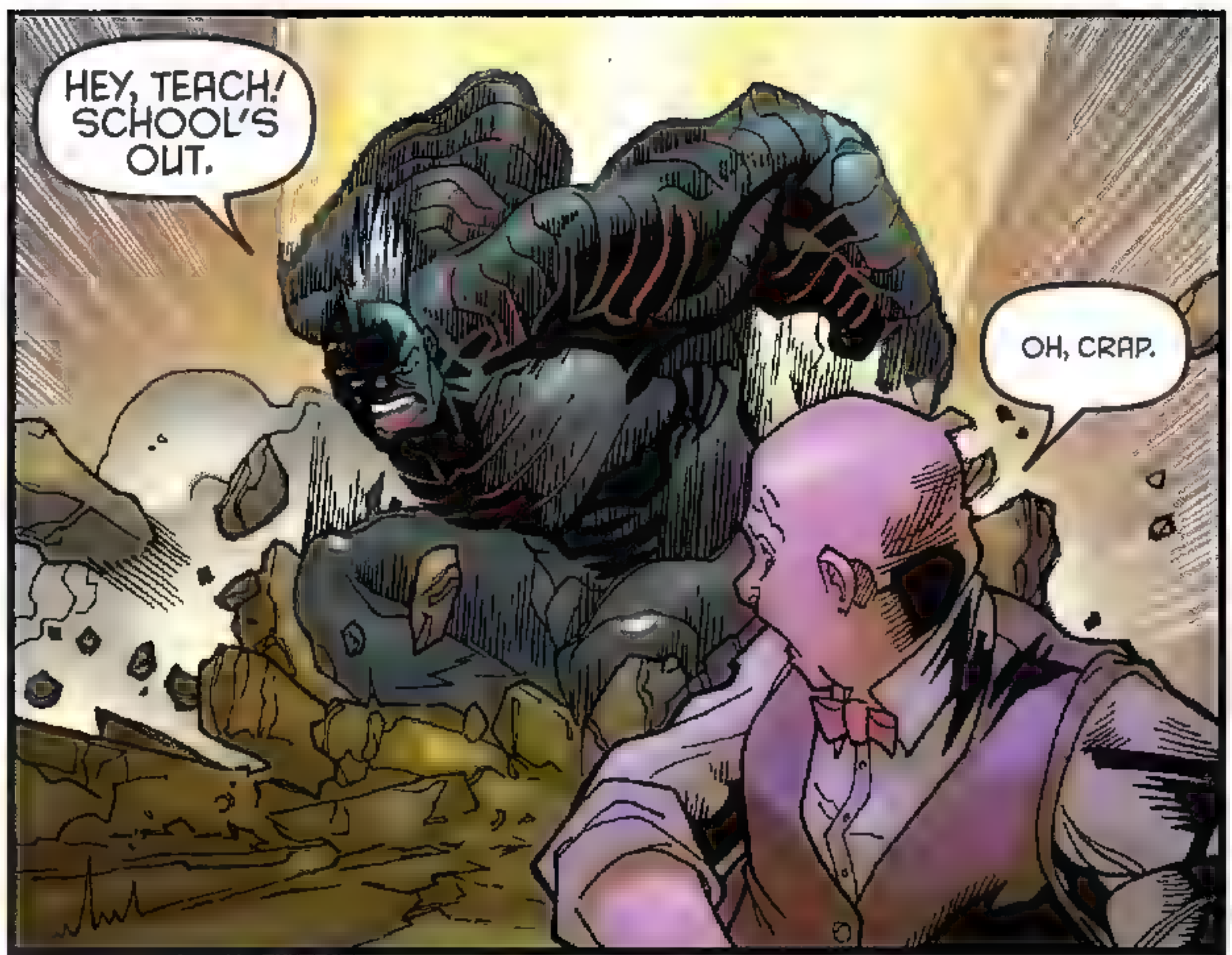
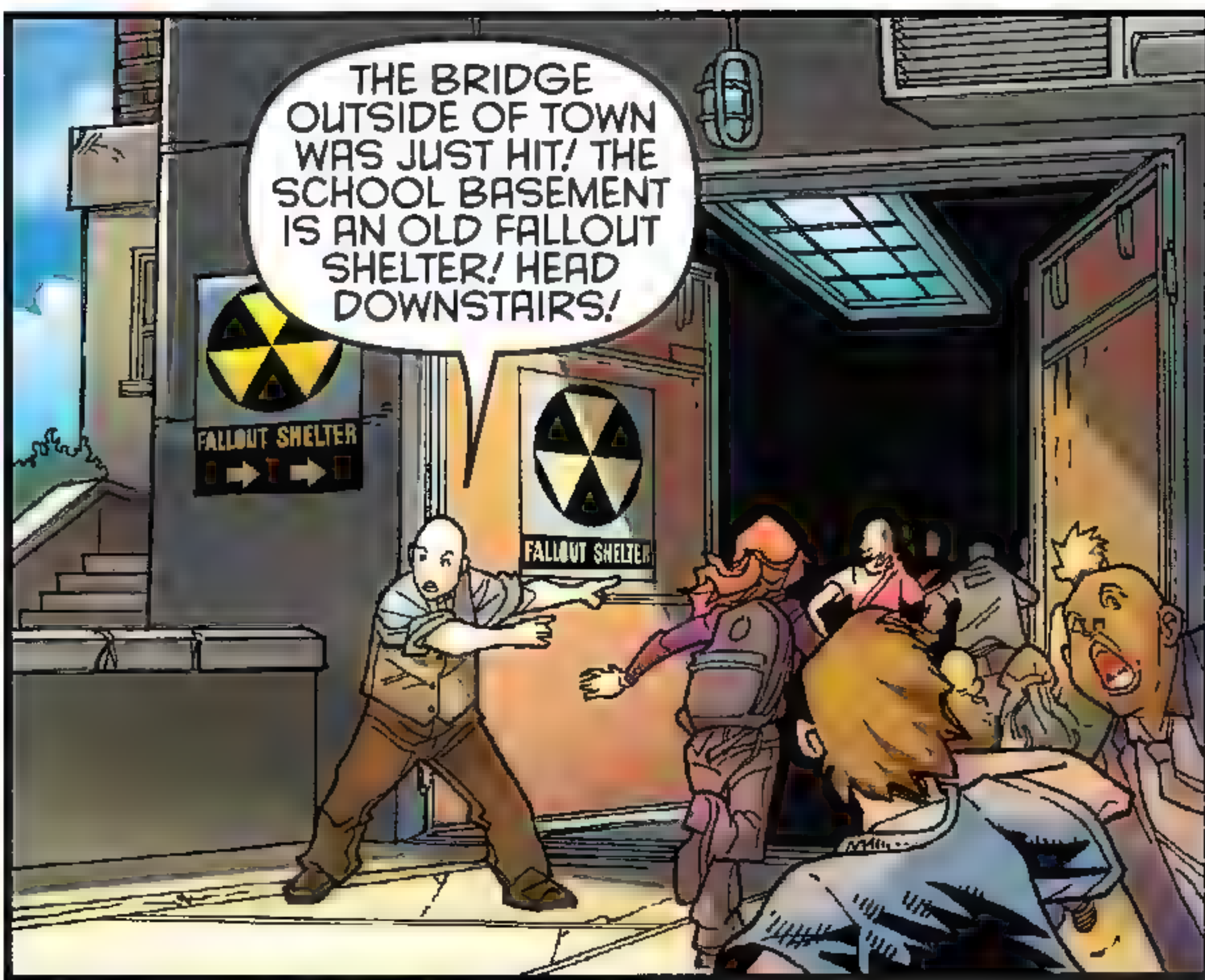
ARIZONA...

LIKE A BRIDGE
OVER TROUBLED
WATER...

SKREEE RRRUNNCHH SKLEE

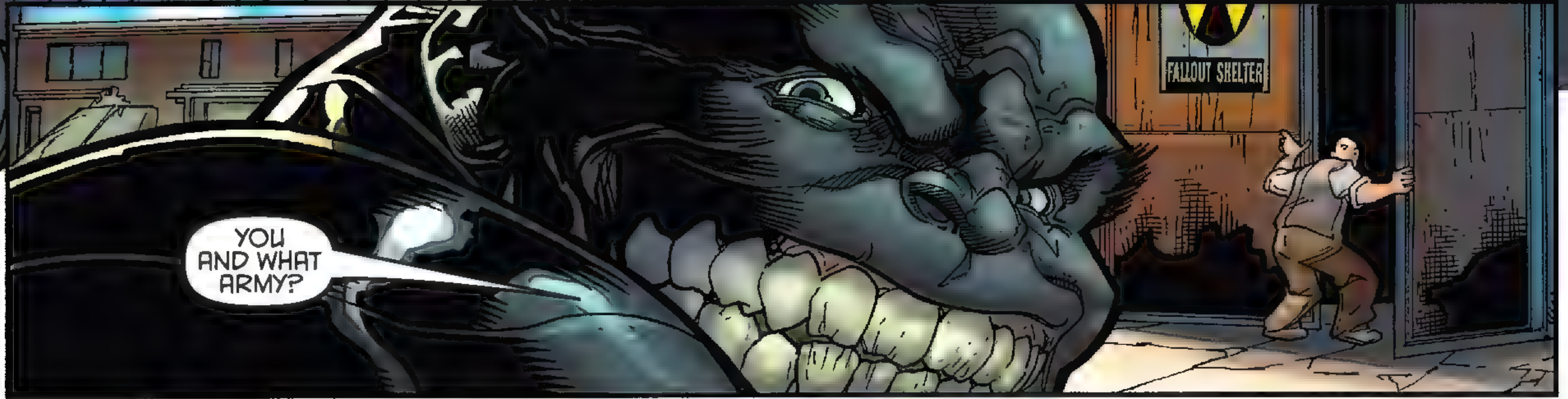
I WILL
BREAK YOUR
BONES.

I HATE
THE DESERT
AND I'M BORED.
MAYBE I'LL DROP
IN AND DESTROY
PHOENIX.



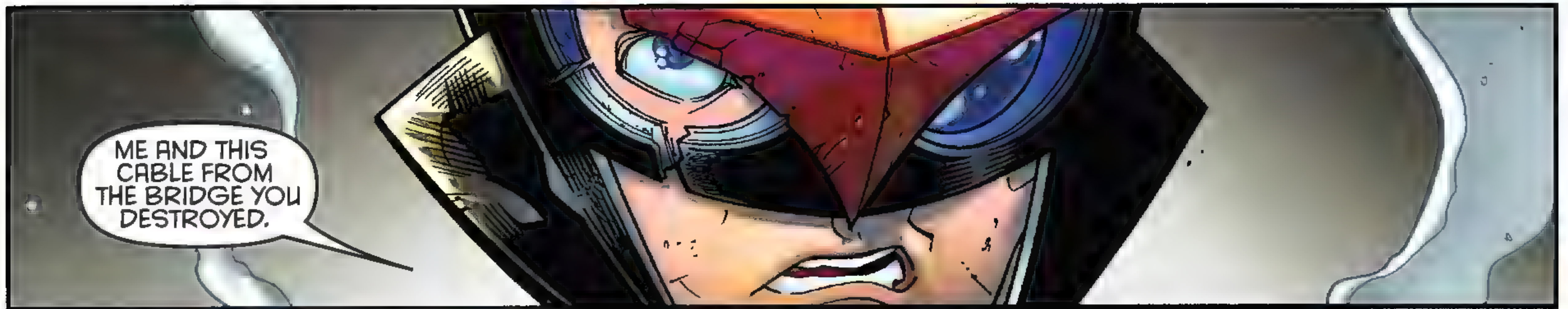


I'M
ENDING
THIS
NOW.



YOU
AND WHAT
ARMY?

FALLOUT SHELTER



ME AND THIS
CABLE FROM
THE BRIDGE YOU
DESTROYED.

FIGHT ME
AND DIE,
BOY!

I TRIED
THAT AND
ALMOST
DIED.

I'M NOT
GOING TO
FIGHT
YOU...

GOT A
SUGGESTION
FOR YOU...

...TAKE A DEEP
BREATH.



YOU THINK
THIS CABLE WILL
HOLD ME?!

YEAH,
FOR A FEW
MOMENTS.

BUT

THAT'S

ALL

YEAOW!

I NEED!

I LEARNED THE HARD
WAY THAT THIS MONSTER
IS THE STRONGEST FORCE
ON THE PLANET.

IN SPACE, HIS
STRENGTH WON'T
MEAN SQUAT.

YEAARGH!

GONNA
KILL YOU!



READY
OR NOT, HERE
I COME!

THERE'S NO SUPER HERO
SCHOOL. WELL, I GUESS THERE IS
IF YOU'RE A MUTANT, I GUESS.

THE POINT IS--I GOT A FEW LESSONS FROM ROCKET AND GAMORA WHEN THEY GAVE ME THE HELMET...

BUT I'VE BEEN MAKING
ALL THIS UP AS I GO.

THAT'S WHY I WANT
TO TRY AND WORK
HARDER IN SCHOOL.

GRRARGH!

IN SCIENCE CLASS, WE JUST
WENT OVER *ESCAPE VELOCITY*...
THE SPEED NEEDED TO REACH ORBIT.

ON EARTH THAT'S
TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND
MILES AN HOUR.

YEAHAHAH!



I DID IT!



I FOUGHT THE HULK
AND... I WON?



SO LONG
YOU--
ZZZT

I KNOW THIS SOUNDS
DUMB, BUT I FELT LIKE
THE NOVA FORCE WAS ALIVE,
STRUGGLING WITH ME.

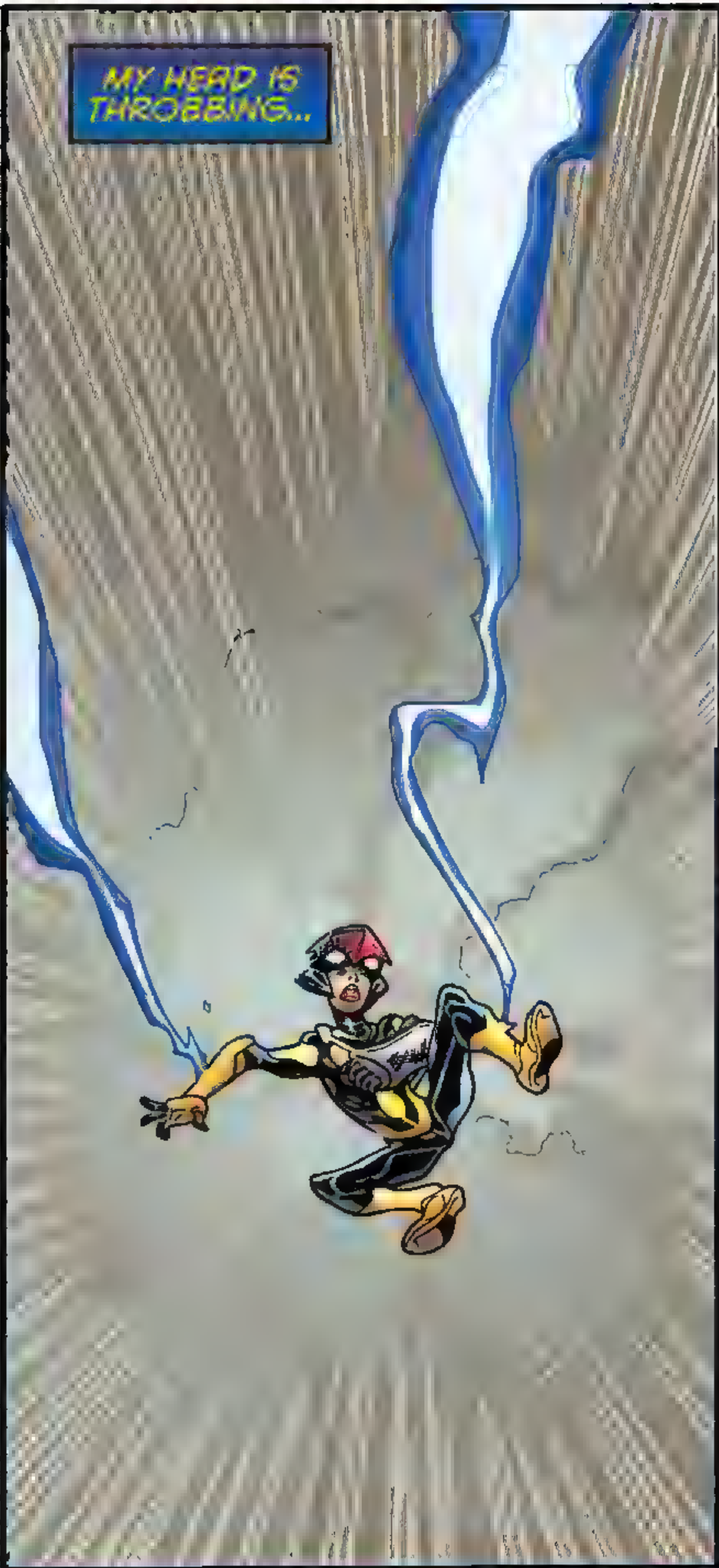


AND WE BOTH
SAVE OUT AT
THE SAME TIME.

OH,
CRAP--



-GASP-



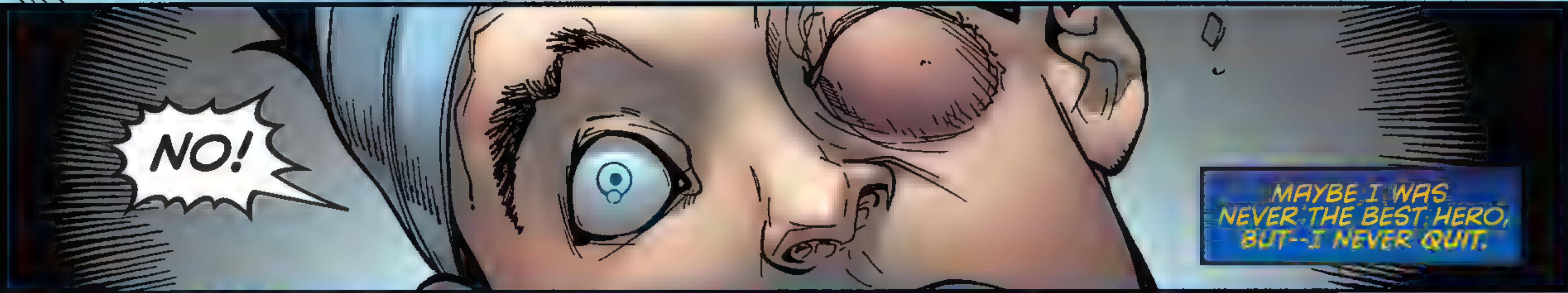
MY HEAD IS THROBBING...



ALL I WANT TO DO IS GO TO SLEEP...



LET THE COLD SNATCH ME AWAY.

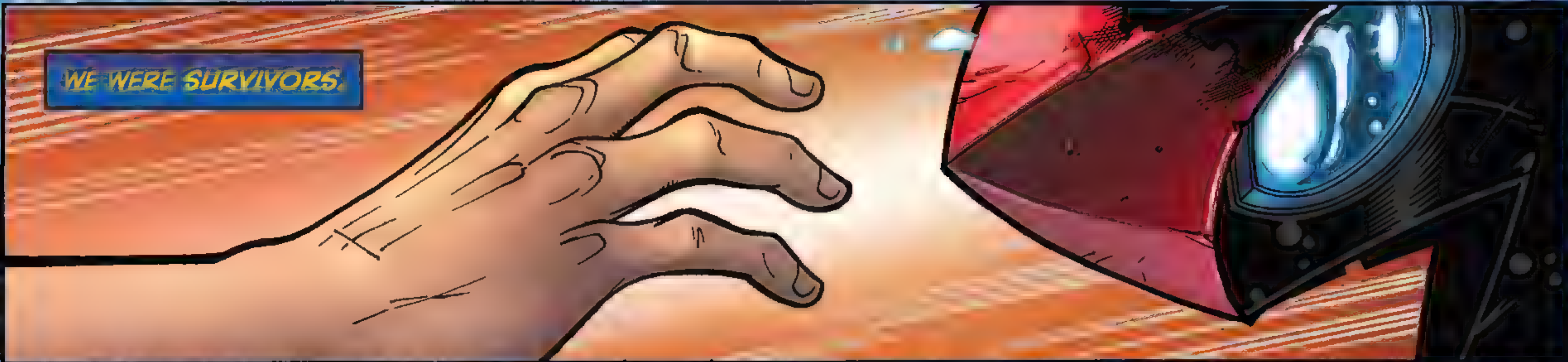


NO!

MAYBE I WAS NEVER THE BEST HERO, BUT I NEVER QUIT.



THAT WAS ONE THING I HAD IN COMMON WITH MY OLD MAN...



WE WERE SURVIVORS.



IT SOUNDS *QUIET*...
I THINK THE MONSTER
IS GONE.



BRAKRADOOM

ON SECOND
THOUGHT, WHY
DON'T WE ALL STAY
DOWN HERE FOR A
WHILE LONGER?



I'VE NEVER BEEN
SO HAPPY TO BAIL
IN A SKATE PARK.

SORRY,
SKATE PARK.



FEEL TERRIBLE
THOUGH.

VISION IS
BLURRY.

≡BLECH!≡



WE SAW
WHAT YOU
DID.

THANK
YOU!

FACING THE HULK
WAS HARD ENOUGH...
NOW I HAVE TO FACE
CAPTAIN AMERICA.



WOW!
I SAW WHAT
YOU DID TO STOP
THAT HULK
MONSTER.

THANKS!
ARE YOU ONE
OF THOSE OTHER
SPIDER-MEN
THAT'S RUNNING
AROUND?



I WISH.
SOMEDAY.
I GOT A LOT
TO MAKE UP
FOR.

CLETUS
KASADY.

SAM
ALEXANDER.



NOVA,
COME
INSIDE.



CARNAGE,
WE'RE ALL SET
HERE.

I SAW THE NEWS ABOUT
THE HULK, AND I WANTED
TO *HELP*.

THANKS,
BUT WE HAVE
IT HANDLED.

CHECK
OUT WHAT
I FOUND!

DOOM
SHK



GREAT,
NOW WHAT?!

I REALLY
DON'T FEEL
WELL.

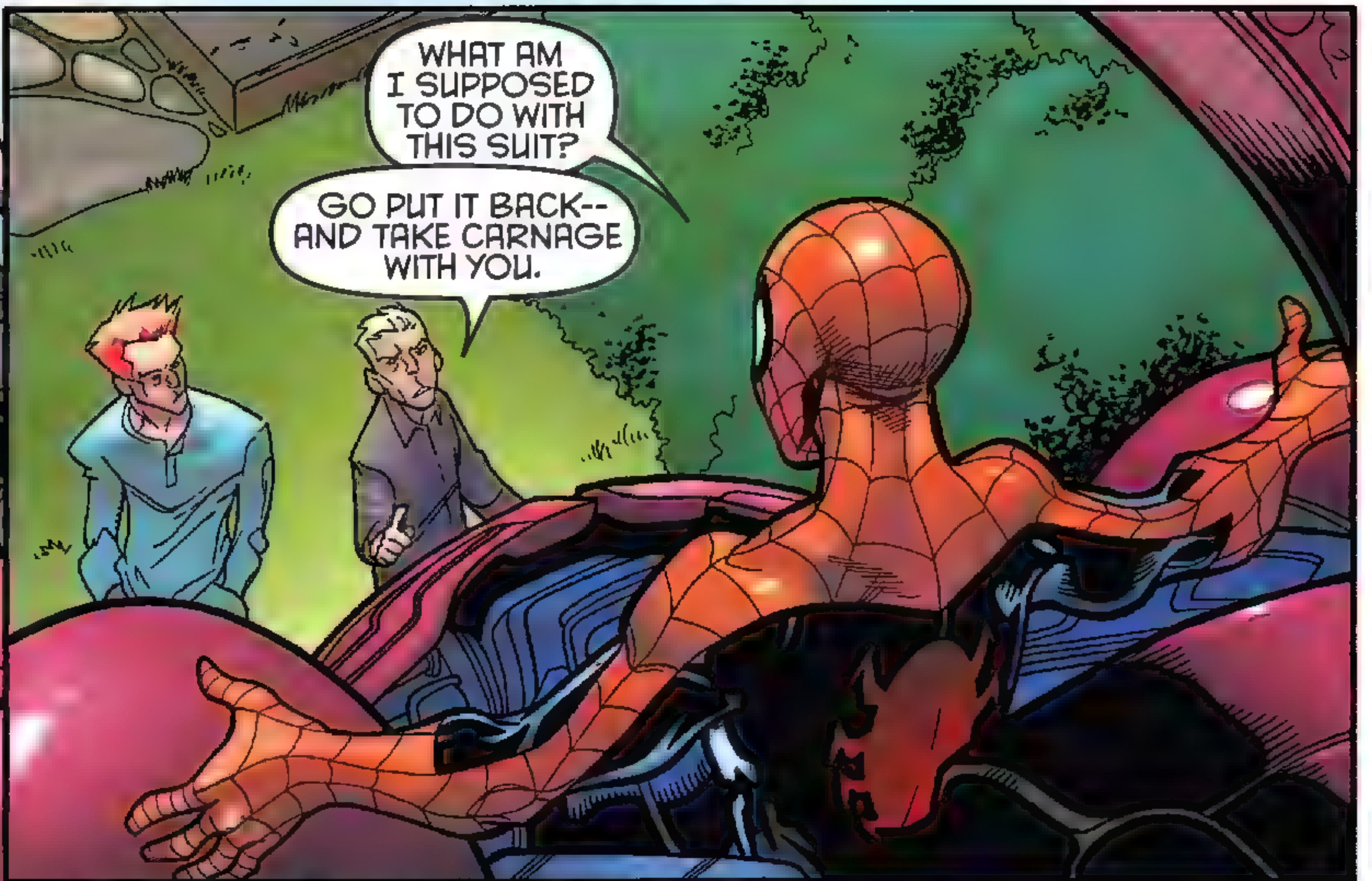


THIS IS WHAT WE NEED TO TAKE DOWN THE HULK!

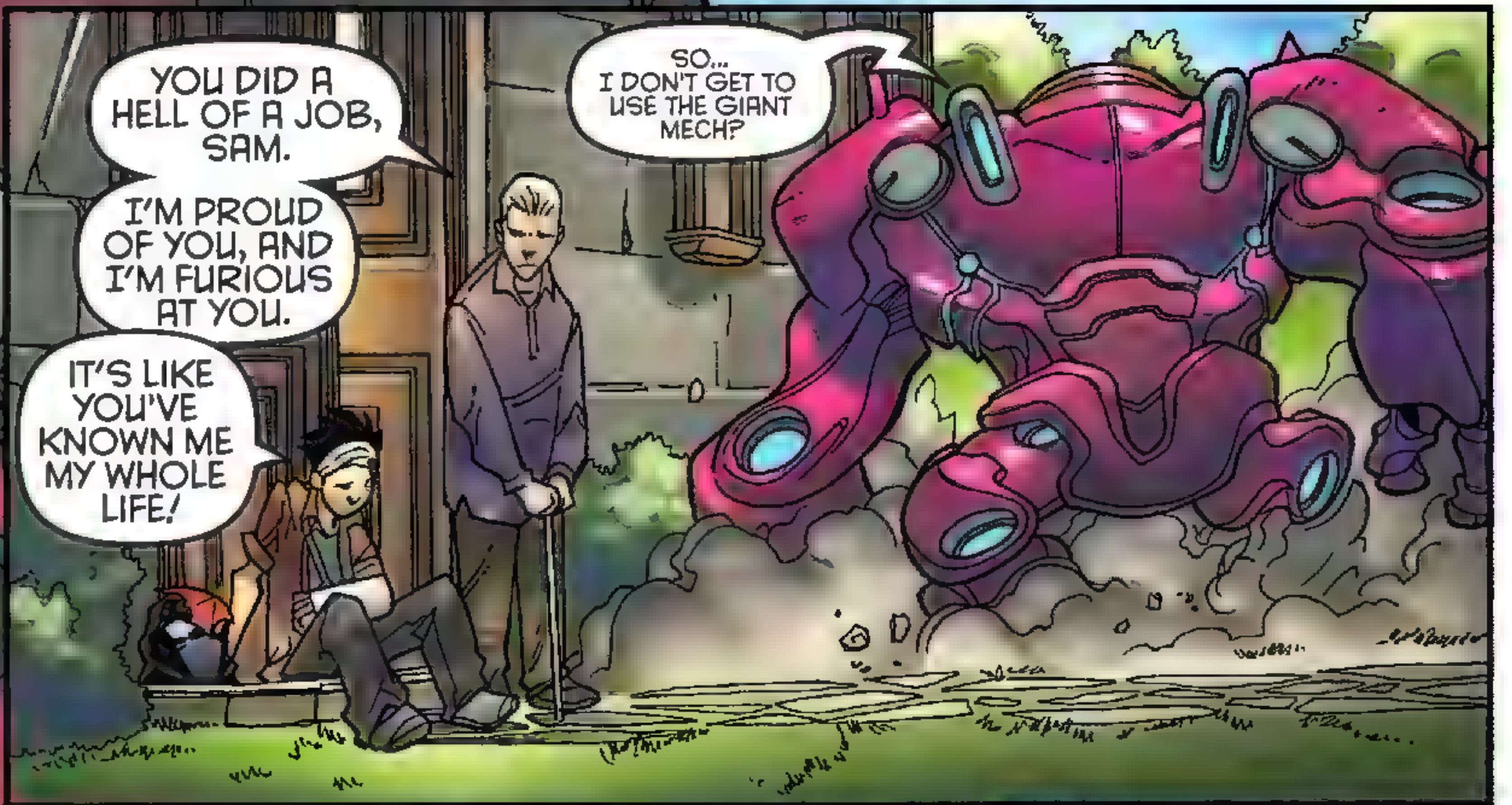
THAT SITUATION IS OVER.

NOVA KNOCKED THE HULK INTO ORBIT.

THAT WILL BUY US SOME TIME.



WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH THIS SUIT?
GO PUT IT BACK-- AND TAKE CARNAGE WITH YOU.

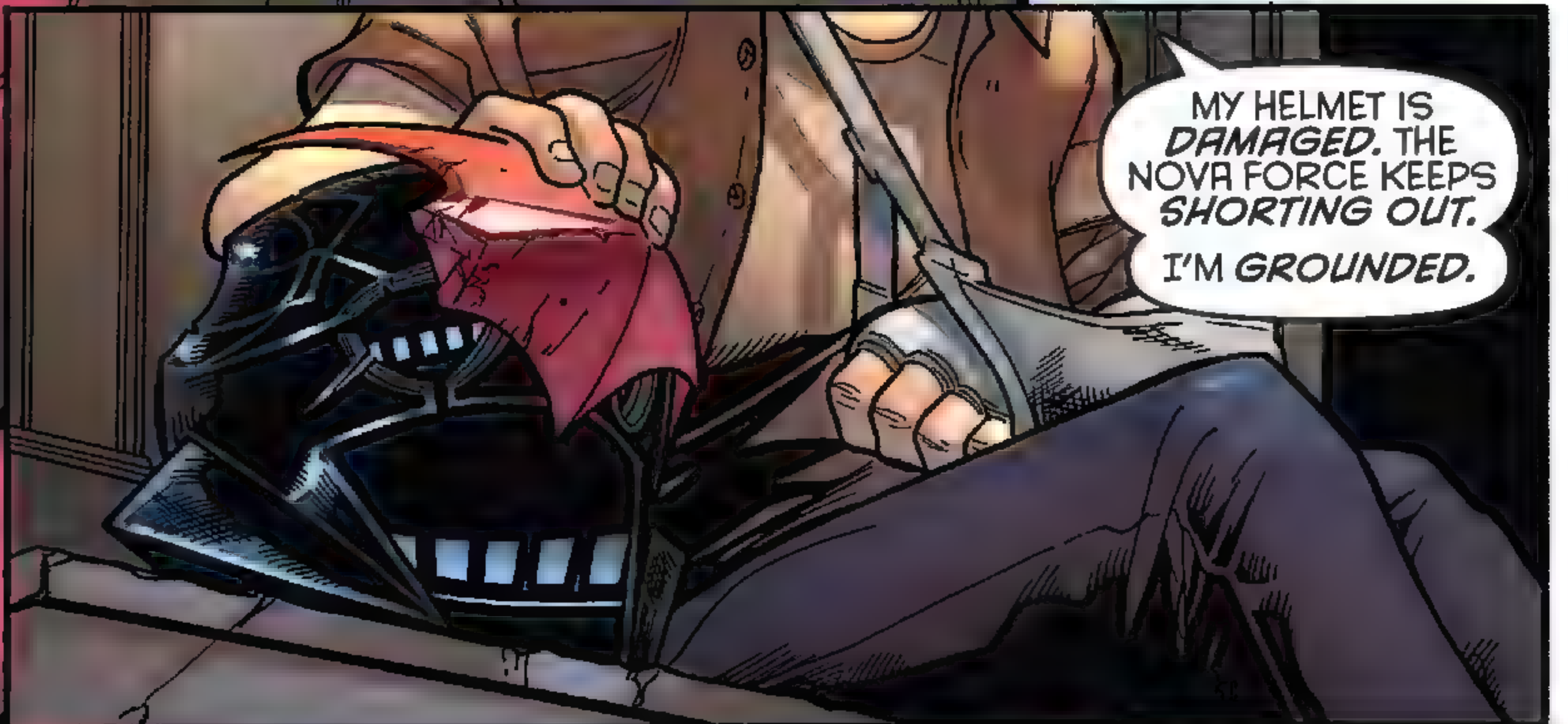


YOU DID A HELL OF A JOB, SAM.

I'M PROUD OF YOU, AND I'M FURIOUS AT YOU.

IT'S LIKE YOU'VE KNOWN ME MY WHOLE LIFE!

SO... I DON'T GET TO USE THE GIANT MECH?

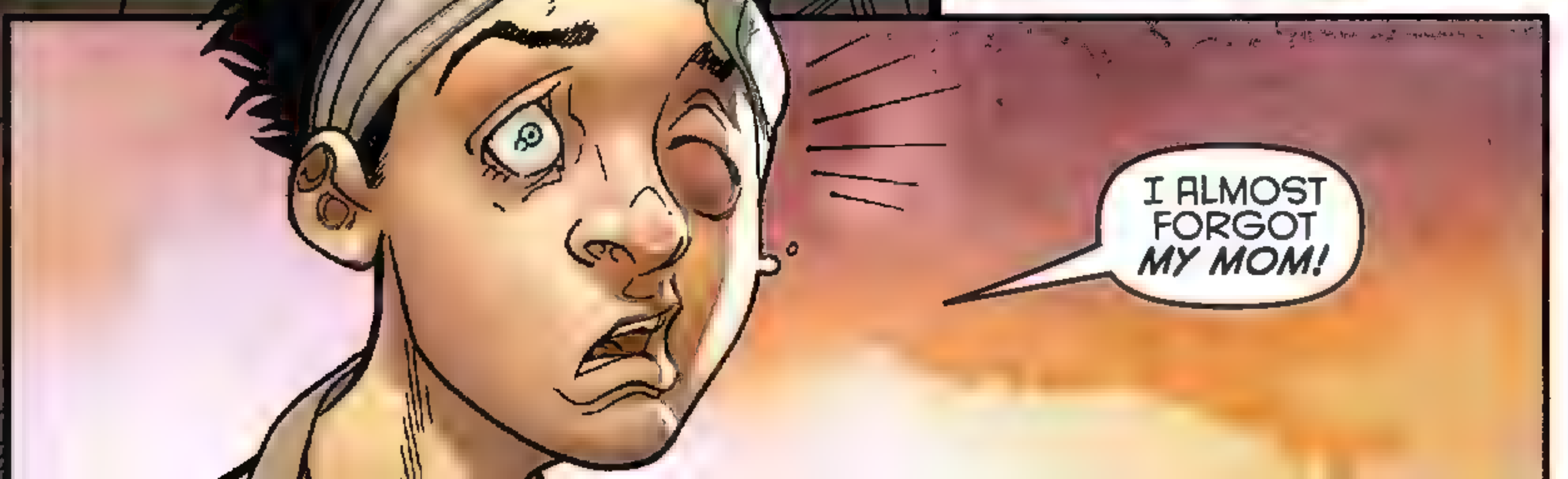


MY HELMET IS DAMAGED. THE NOVA FORCE KEEPS SHORTING OUT. I'M GROUNDED.

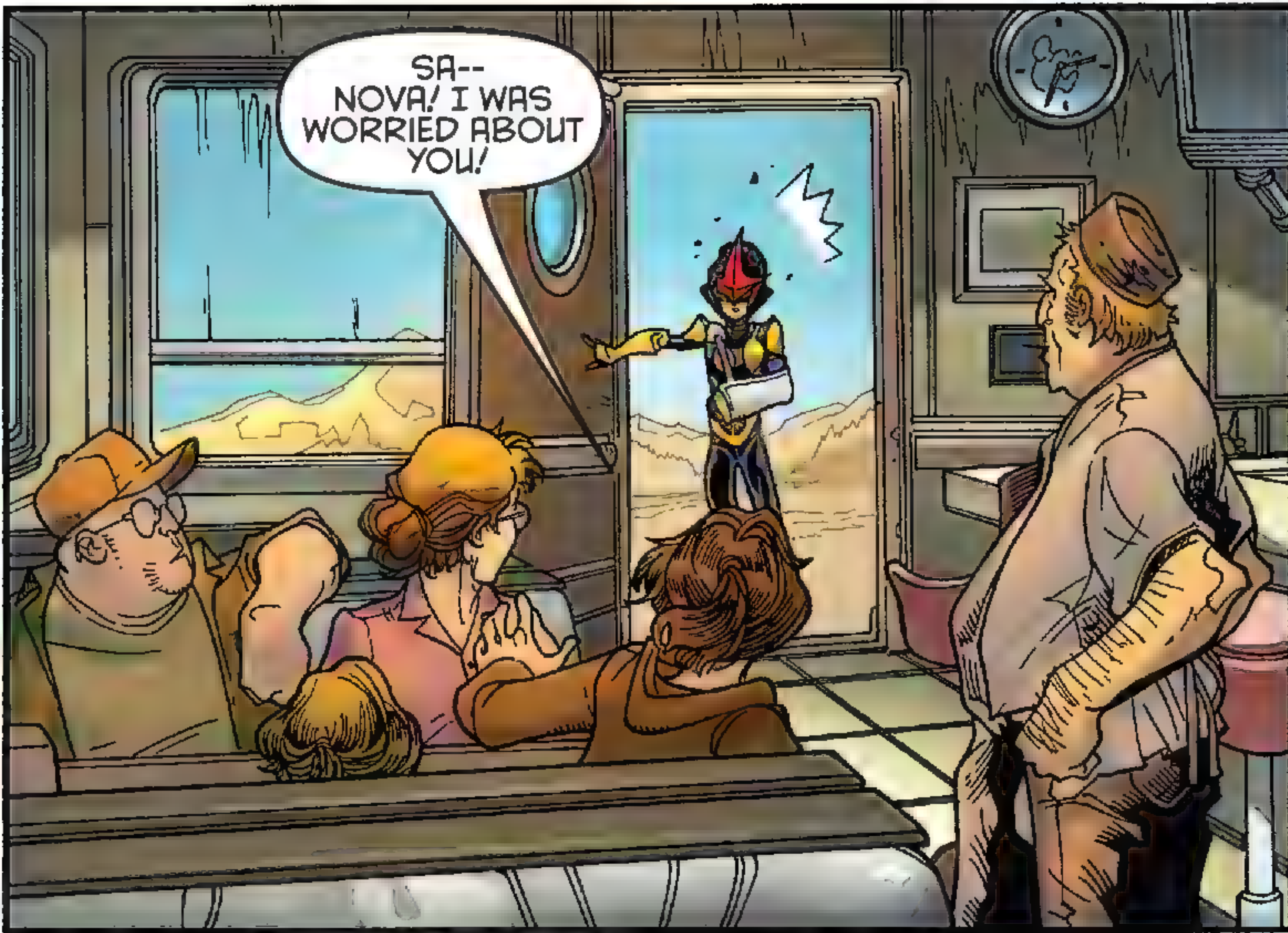


YOU SAVED A LOT OF LIVES TODAY. WE'LL LET THE INSUBORDINATION SLIDE FOR NOW.

I KNOW YOUR MOTHER IS PROUD OF YOU, TOO.



I ALMOST FORGOT MY MOM!





BOY, THAT
SAM ALEXANDER
SURE IS A TERRIFIC
KID...



I CAN'T
BELIEVE I USED
TO KEEP A LIST OF
PEOPLE I WANTED
TO HURT.



I'M GOING
TO START A
NEW LIST.

OF
PEOPLE I WANT
TO HELP.



I THINK
I'LL VISIT THAT
SAM ALEXANDER KID
WHEN THIS MESS WITH
THE HEROES BLOWS
OVER.

TO BE CONTINUED...



NOVA 616

OVER-SIZED,
EARTH-AND-HELMET-
SHATTERING
25TH ISSUE!

MARVEL

DUGGAN
BALDEON
PALLOT
VLASCO
CURIEL

025

NOVA

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PUBLISHER: **DAN BUCKLEY** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: **ALAN FINE**

PREVIOUSLY...

Sam Alexander's father, Jesse, used to tell him stories about the intergalactic Nova Corps, a peacekeeping force throughout the galaxy. Sam always thought these stories were just that – stories – until one day his father went missing, and Sam found his old helmet, becoming the interstellar hero called Nova!

As Nova, Sam gained the attention of both Captain America and Spider-Man when he fought the Hulk, who was threatening his hometown, into space. Unfortunately, Nova's helmet was broken in the process and is on the fritz!



CHAPTER XXV: THE SUPER-SAVER CLUB CARD



THE FIRST NOVA
WAS AN ORDINARY
KID WHO SAVED
THE UNIVERSE
EVERY TIME HE
WENT TO SPACE.

HE NEVER CAME HOME.



LATER, MY DAD
JESSE ALEXANDER,
WAS ALSO A NOVA.

HE FOUGHT THE
CHITAURO OUT THERE,
SO WE WOULDN'T HAVE
TO HERE AND SAVED
THE PLANET FROM
THREATS WE DIDN'T
EVEN KNOW EXISTED.

HE NEVER CAME
HOME EITHER...
BUT I HAVE HOPE.

MY NAME IS
SAM ALEXANDER

NOW I AM

NOVA

I DON'T KNOW
HOW I STACK UP
AGAINST THOSE TWO,
BUT THE EARTH
IS STILL REVOLVING
AROUND THE SUN, SO
THAT'S SOMETHING
RIGHT?

I'VE BEEN
TO SPACE
AND MADE
FRIENDS

COSMO
HAS ITCH ON
HEAD...

I'LL
GET IT.

AND I EVEN GOT
TO BEAT UP SOME
BAD GUYS WITH
MY NEW PALS.

WELL MET,
YOUNG SAM!

I EVEN STOPPED
THE HULK FROM
DESTROYING,
WELL, I GUESS
EVERYTHING.

BUT BOY
DID I PAY
FOR IT.

"HOW DID YOU SAY
SAM GOT HURT?"

NOW.

HE CAN'T REMEMBER EXACTLY, BUT HE WAS HIT WITH SOME DEBRIS DURING THE HULK'S ATTACK. UNFORTUNATELY THIS ISN'T HIS FIRST CONCUSSION. HE'S A SKATEBOARDER.

WEAR A HELMET, SAM.

ACTUALLY, I'M NOT DOING MUCH THESE DAYS THAT WOULD REQUIRE A HELMET.

EVEN BETTER.

YOUR SON HAS A FAIRLY SERIOUS CONCUSSION, AND WITH HIS HISTORY OF CONCUSSIONS, WELL...LET'S MAKE SURE HE'S NOT FLYING AROUND ON A SKATEBOARD.

FOR SURE. NO FLYING AROUND.

KEEP AVOIDING PHYSICAL CONTACT, AVOID BRIGHT LIGHTS. YOU CAN GIVE SAM SOME ASPIRIN AND HE'S GOING TO PROBABLY BE MORE TIRED THAN USUAL. BRING HIM BACK IN IF HIS SYMPTOMS GET WORSE.

THANK YOU, DOCTOR.

WE'RE ALL LUCKY TO BE ALIVE.

...AFTER THE HULK TORI
THROUGH OUR TOWN.

TAKE CARE,
MA'AM. SEE YOUR
FAMILY DOCTOR
AFTER HIS OFFICES
ARE REPAIRED OR
REPLACED.

WE SURE
WILL.

WATER?

SO THE
HULK IS JUST UP
THERE ORBITING
THE PLANET.

I'M NOT
SURE. MAYBE
HE'S BACK
ALREADY?

BOTTLED
WATER?

WHAT
HAPPENS
NEXT?

UH...I LET
THE AVENGERS
HANDLE IT?

WATER?

THAT IS THE
CORRECT ANSWER.
MAYBE THE HULK
KNOCKED SOME
SENSE INTO
YOU.

I AM SO PROUD
OF YOU, BUT THINGS
JUST CAN'T GO BACK
TO THE WAY THINGS
WERE. THERE HAVE
TO BE RULES.

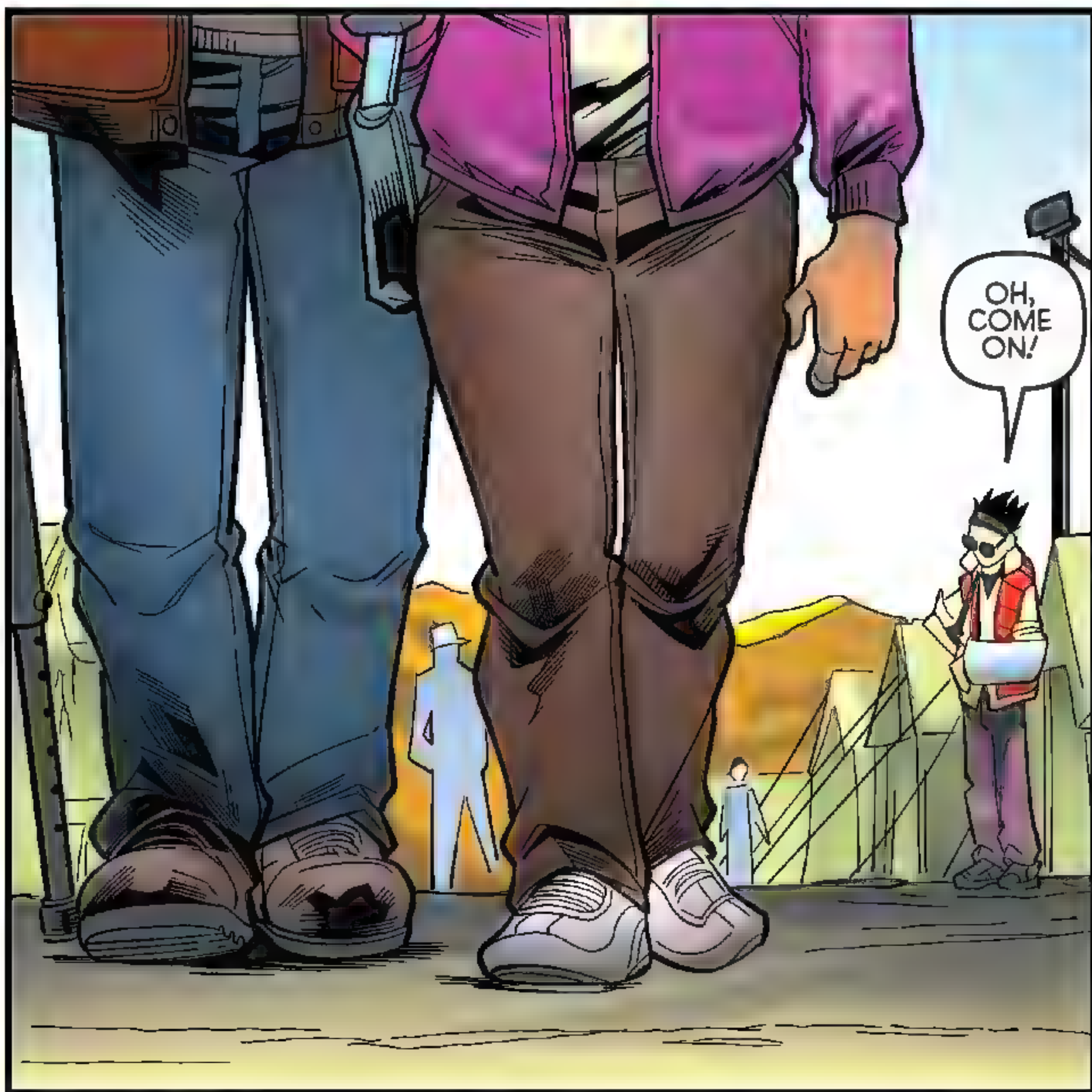
I COULDN'T
AGREE MORE,
MA'AM.

EXCUSE ME, BUT
MY SON AND I ARE
HAVING A *PRIVATE*
CONVERSATION.

WHOA.
HELLO,
SIR.

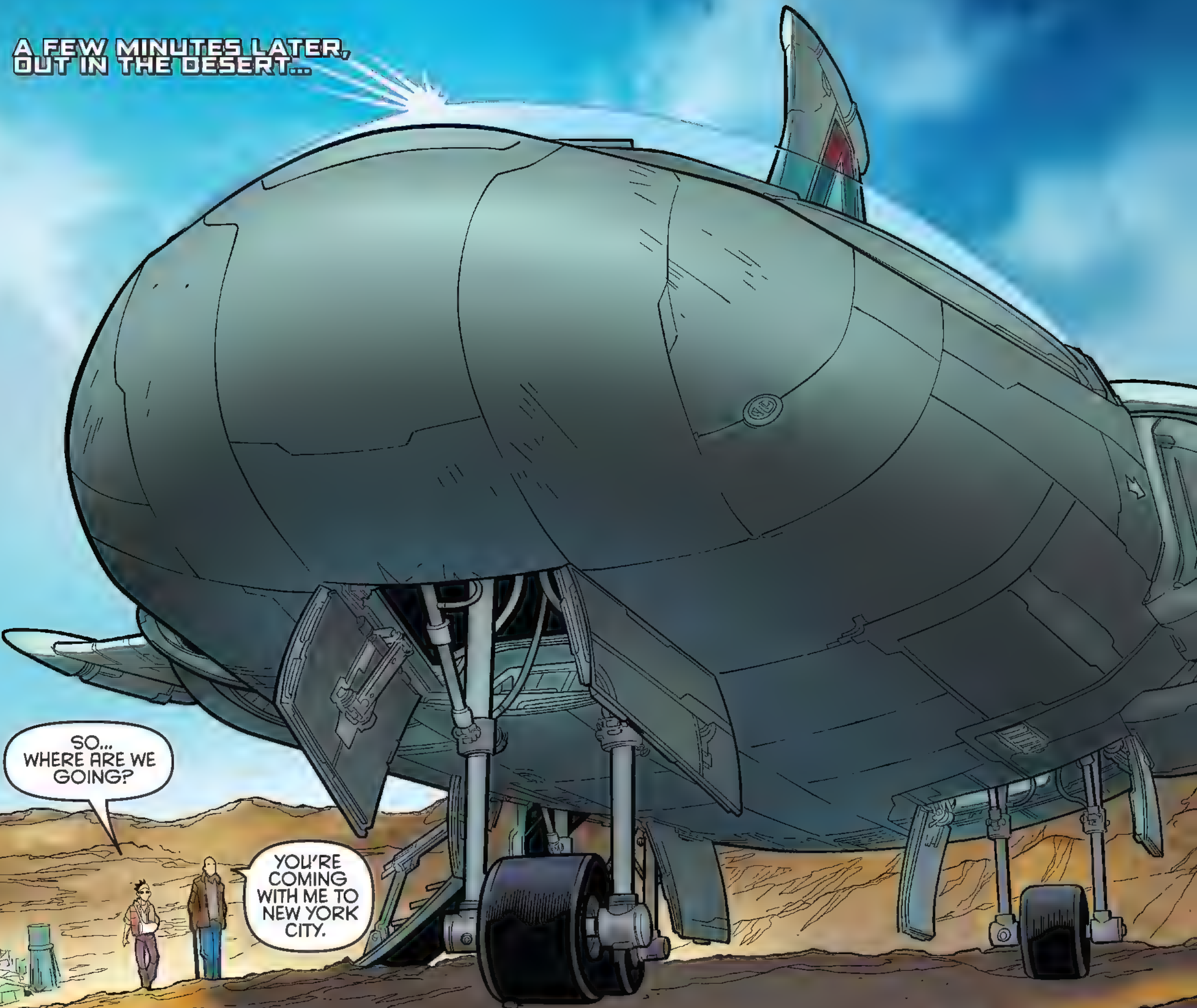
WE HAVEN'T BEEN
INTRODUCED...

MOM, MEET
CAP--





A FEW MINUTES LATER,
OUT IN THE DESERT...



SO...
WHERE ARE WE
GOING?

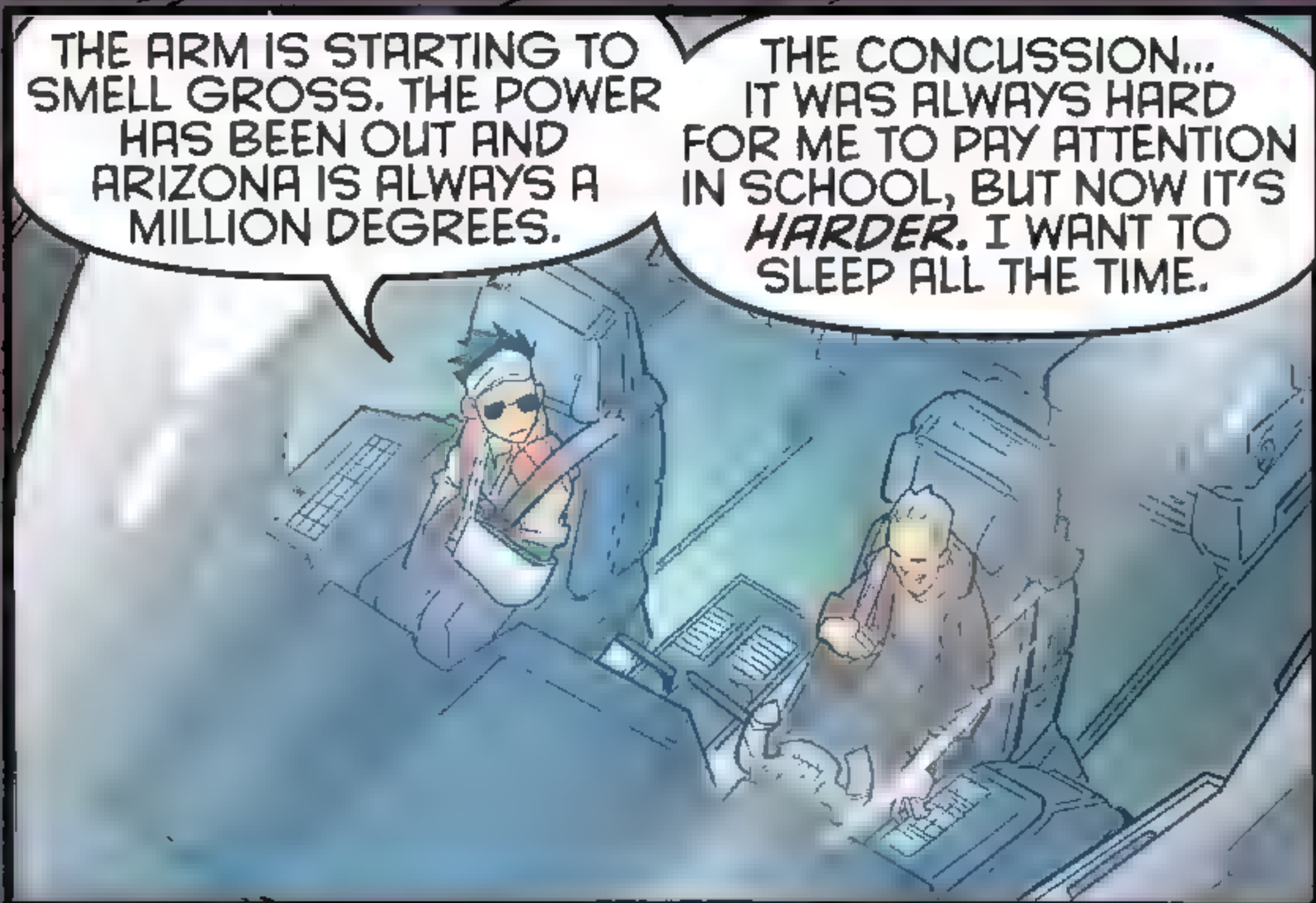
YOU'RE
COMING
WITH ME TO
NEW YORK
CITY.



IS
THERE ANOTHER
EMERGENCY?

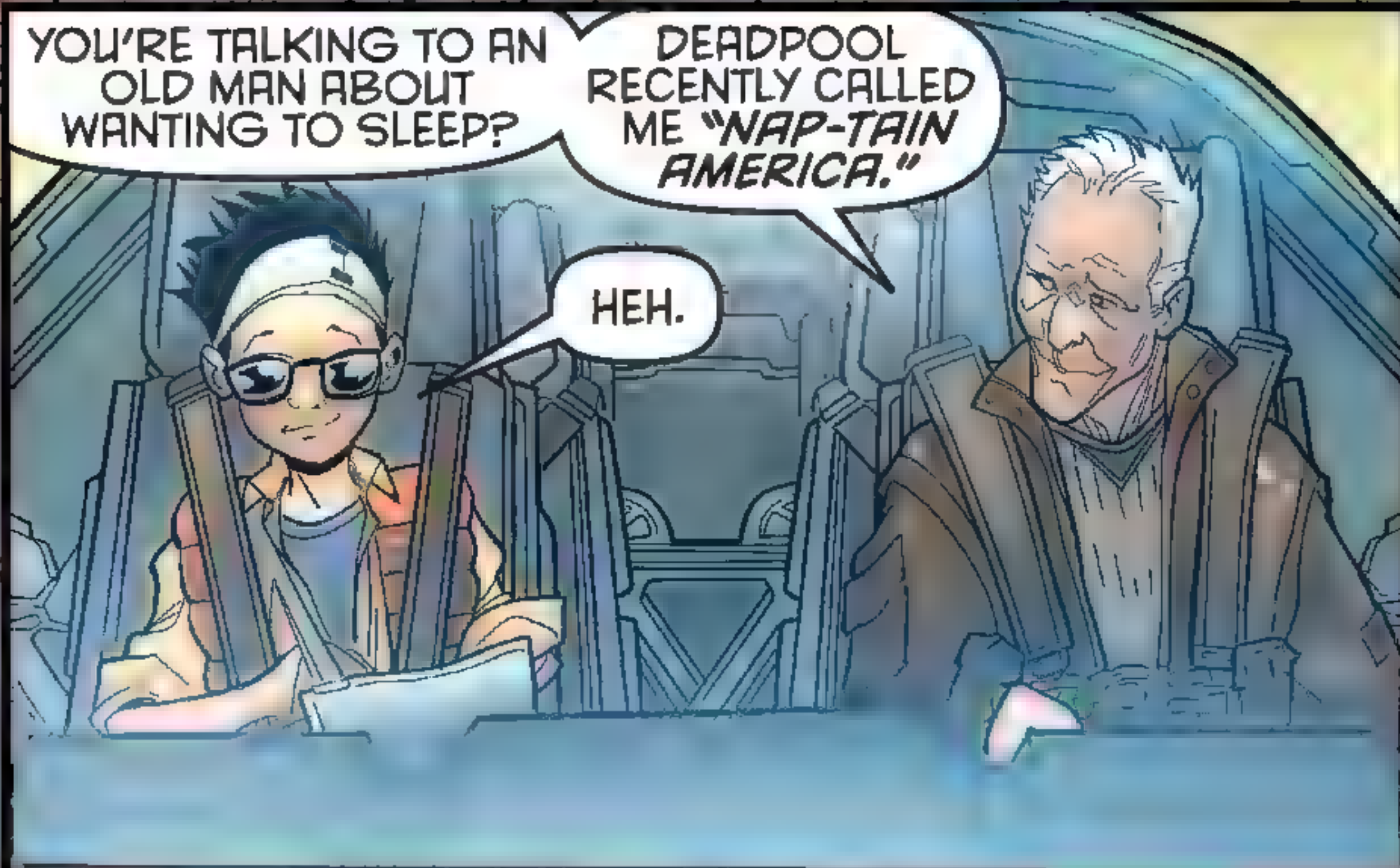
THERE'S
ALWAYS TROUBLE
SOMEWHERE,
BUT THAT'S NOT
WHAT TODAY
IS ABOUT.

HOW ARE
YOUR INJURIES?
HOW ARE YOU
FEELING?



THE ARM IS STARTING TO
SMELL GROSS. THE POWER
HAS BEEN OUT AND
ARIZONA IS ALWAYS A
MILLION DEGREES.

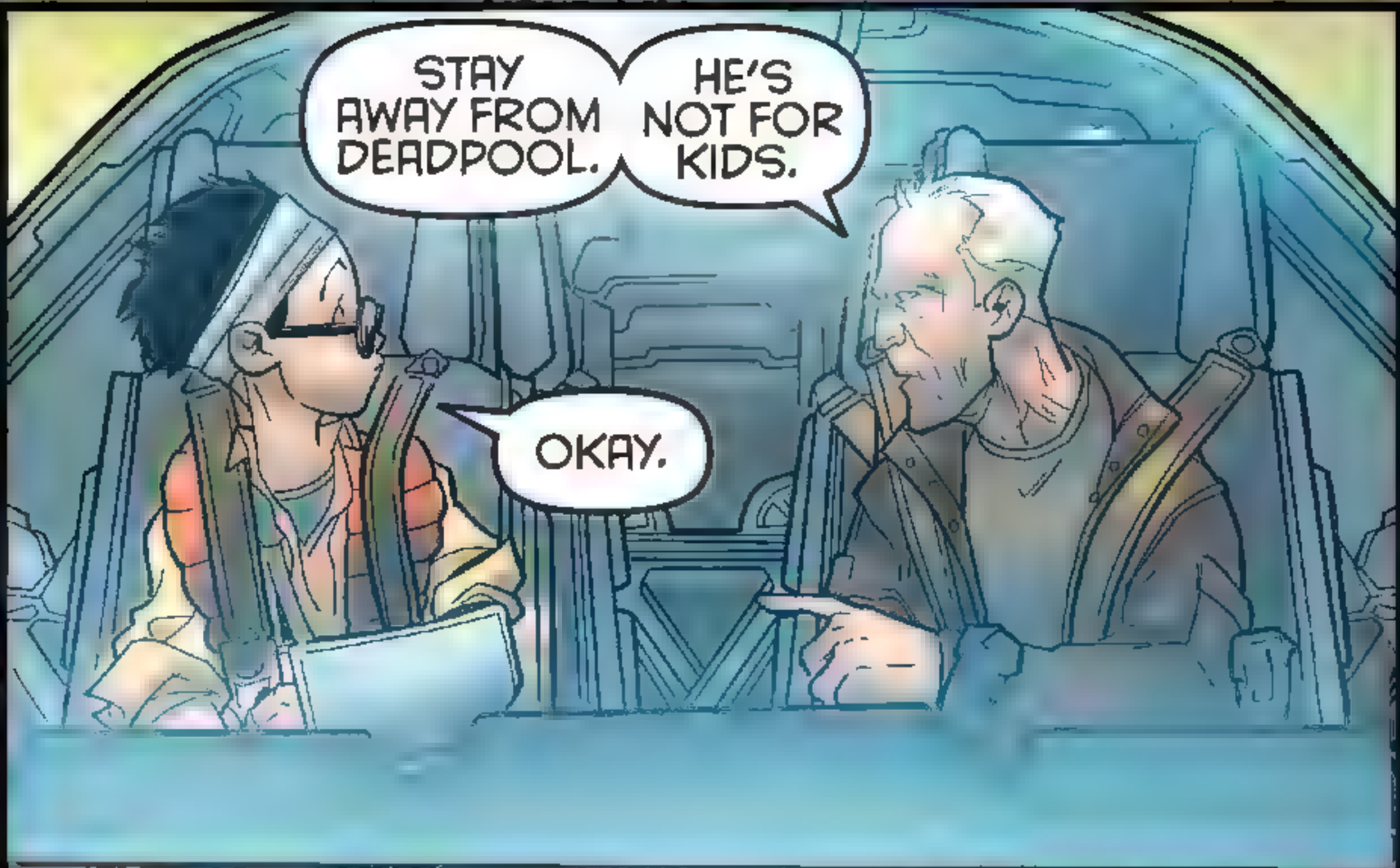
THE CONCUSSION...
IT WAS ALWAYS HARD
FOR ME TO PAY ATTENTION
IN SCHOOL, BUT NOW IT'S
HARDER. I WANT TO
SLEEP ALL THE TIME.



YOU'RE TALKING TO AN
OLD MAN ABOUT
WANTING TO SLEEP?

DEADPOOL
RECENTLY CALLED
ME "**NAP-TAIN
AMERICA**."

HEH.



STAY
AWAY FROM
DEADPOOL.

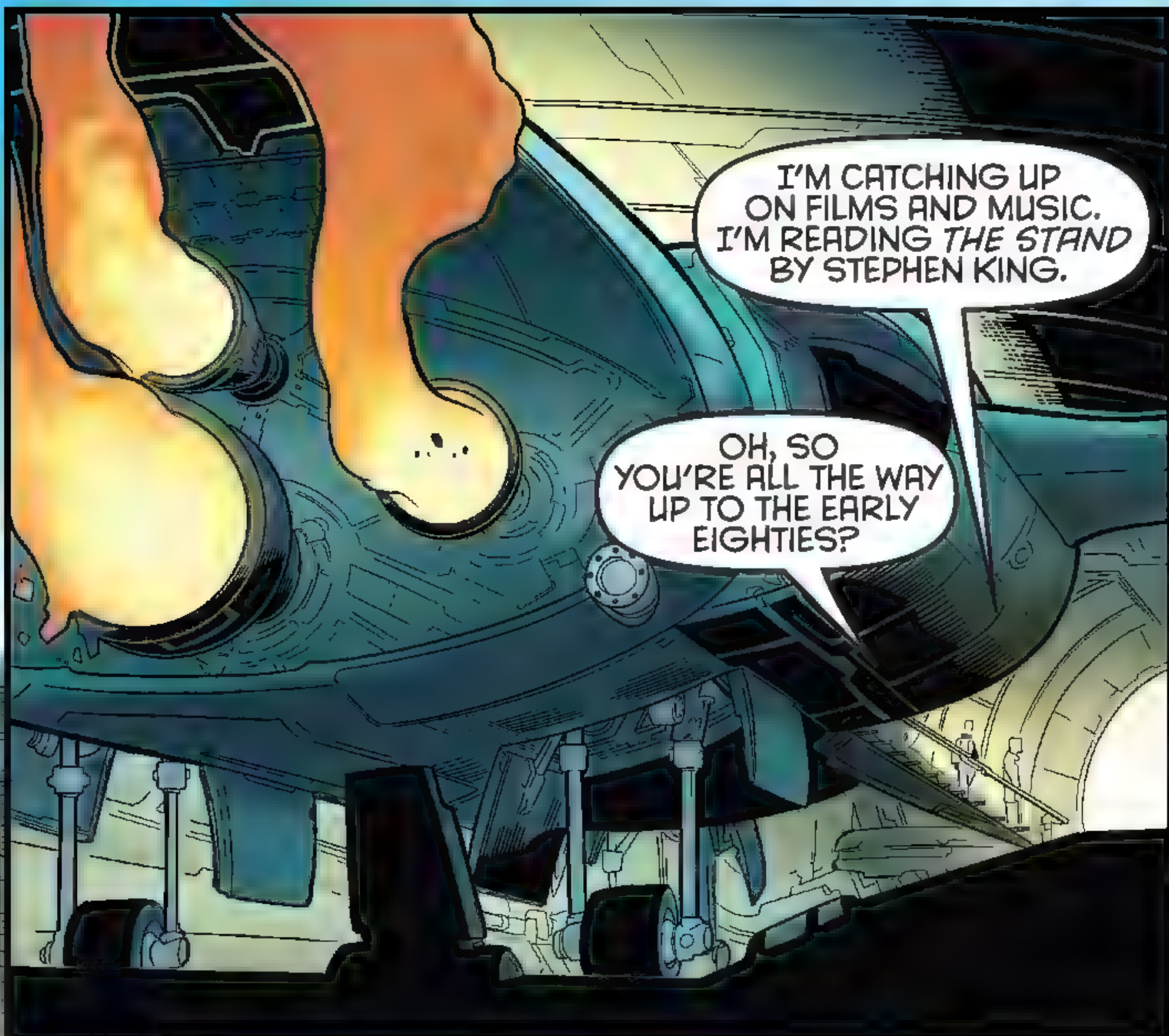
HE'S
NOT FOR
KIDS.

OKAY.



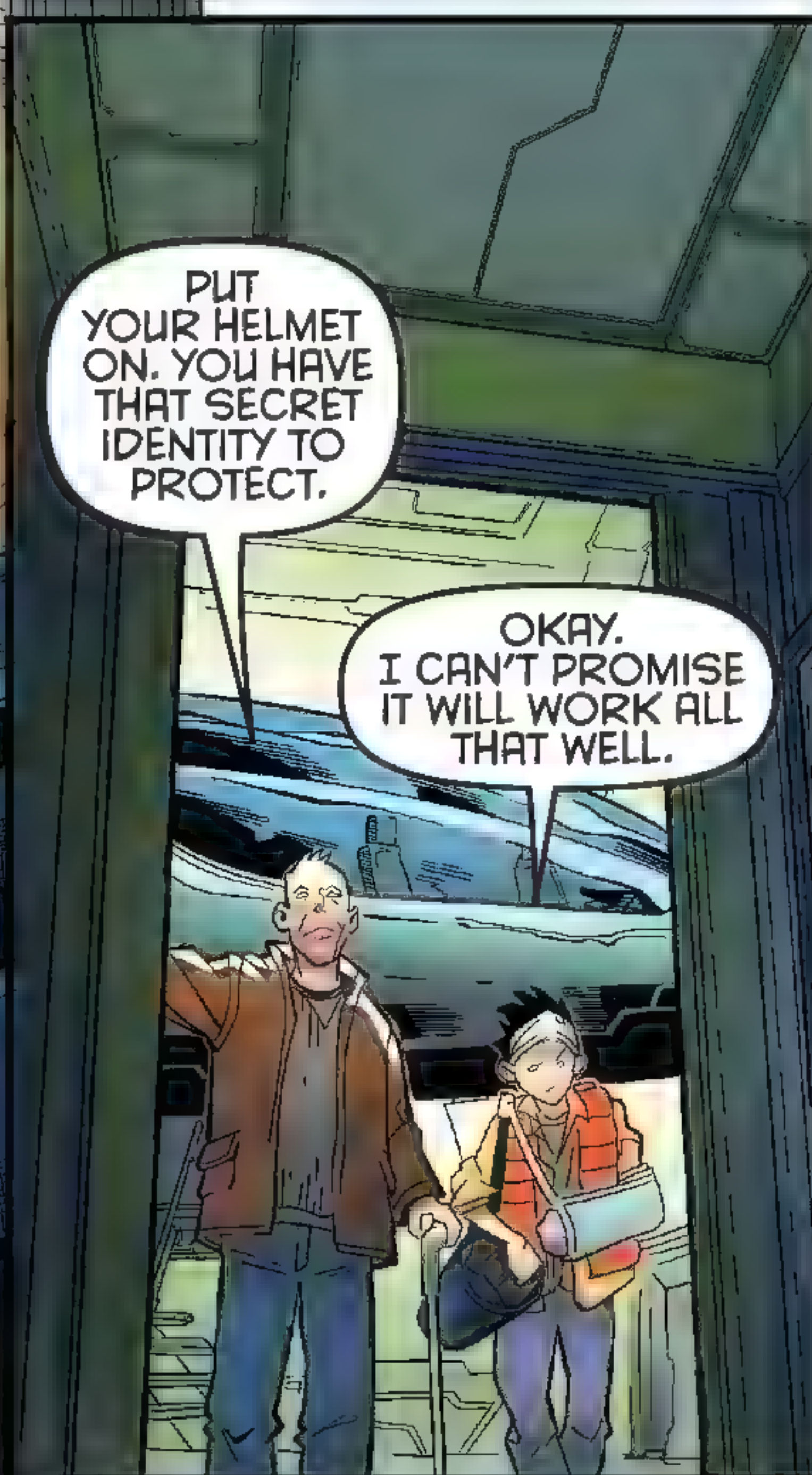
SO,
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING NOW THAT
YOU'RE, UH...
RETIRED?

I'M NOT
RETIRED, BUT...
I DO HAVE A LITTLE
MORE TIME ON
MY HANDS.



I'M CATCHING UP
ON FILMS AND MUSIC.
I'M READING *THE STAND*
BY STEPHEN KING.

OH, SO
YOU'RE ALL THE WAY
UP TO THE EARLY
EIGHTIES?



PUT
YOUR HELMET
ON. YOU HAVE
THAT SECRET
IDENTITY TO
PROTECT.

OKAY.
I CAN'T PROMISE
IT WILL WORK ALL
THAT WELL.



I KNOW
YOU'RE MAD
AT ME, BUT MY
MOM AND MY
SISTER WERE
IN DANGER,
AND YOU
KNOW
WHAT?

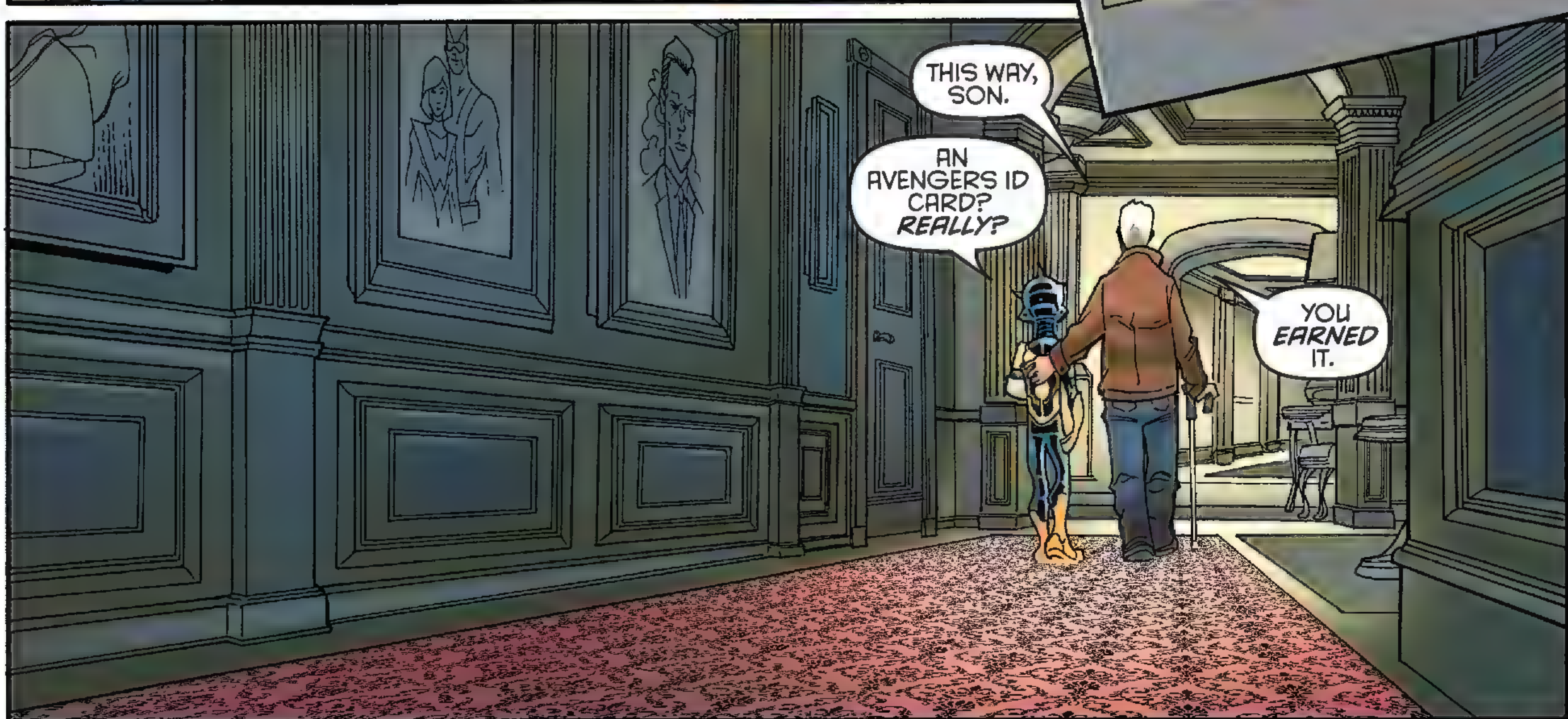
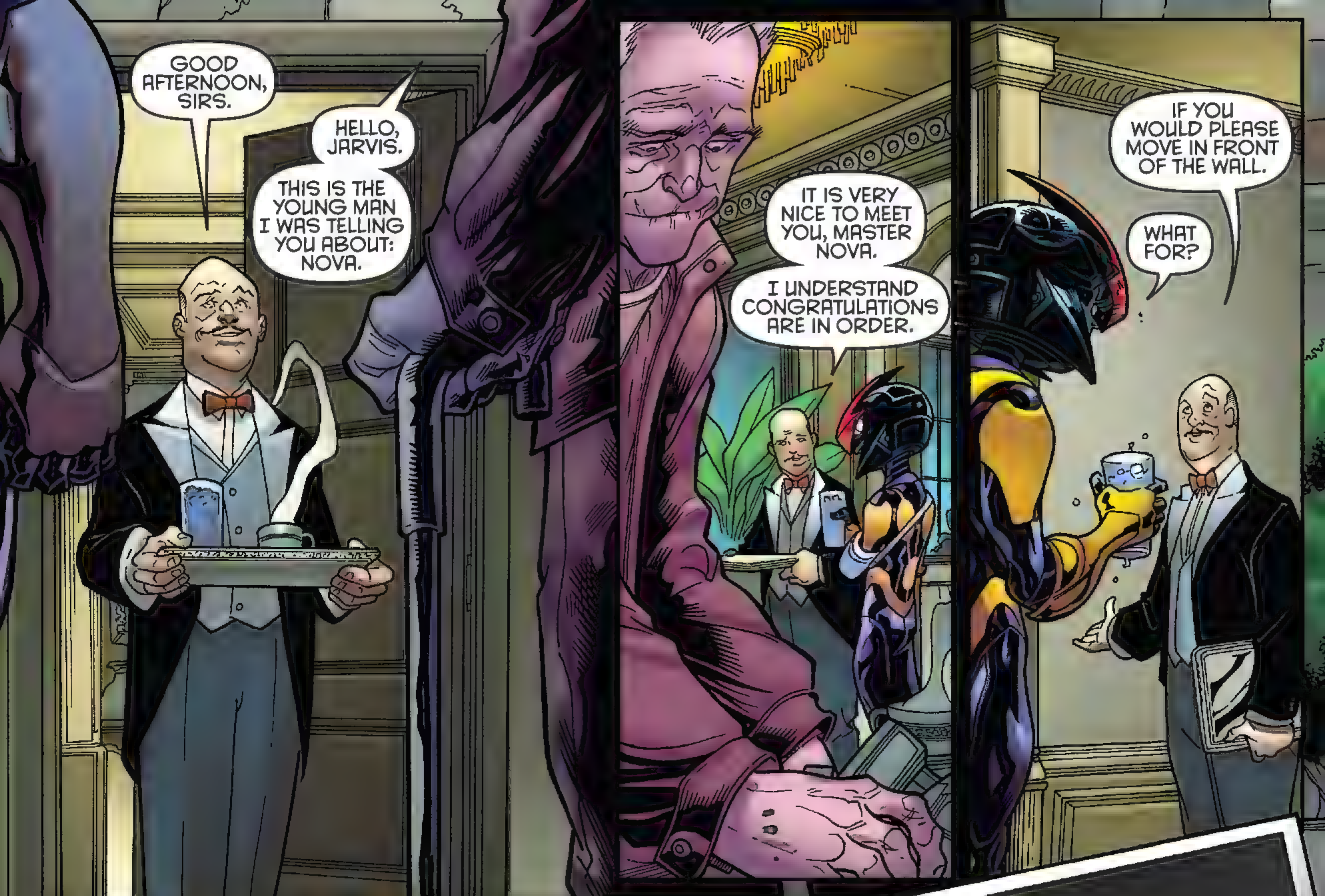
SO WAS
MY WHOLE
TOWN.

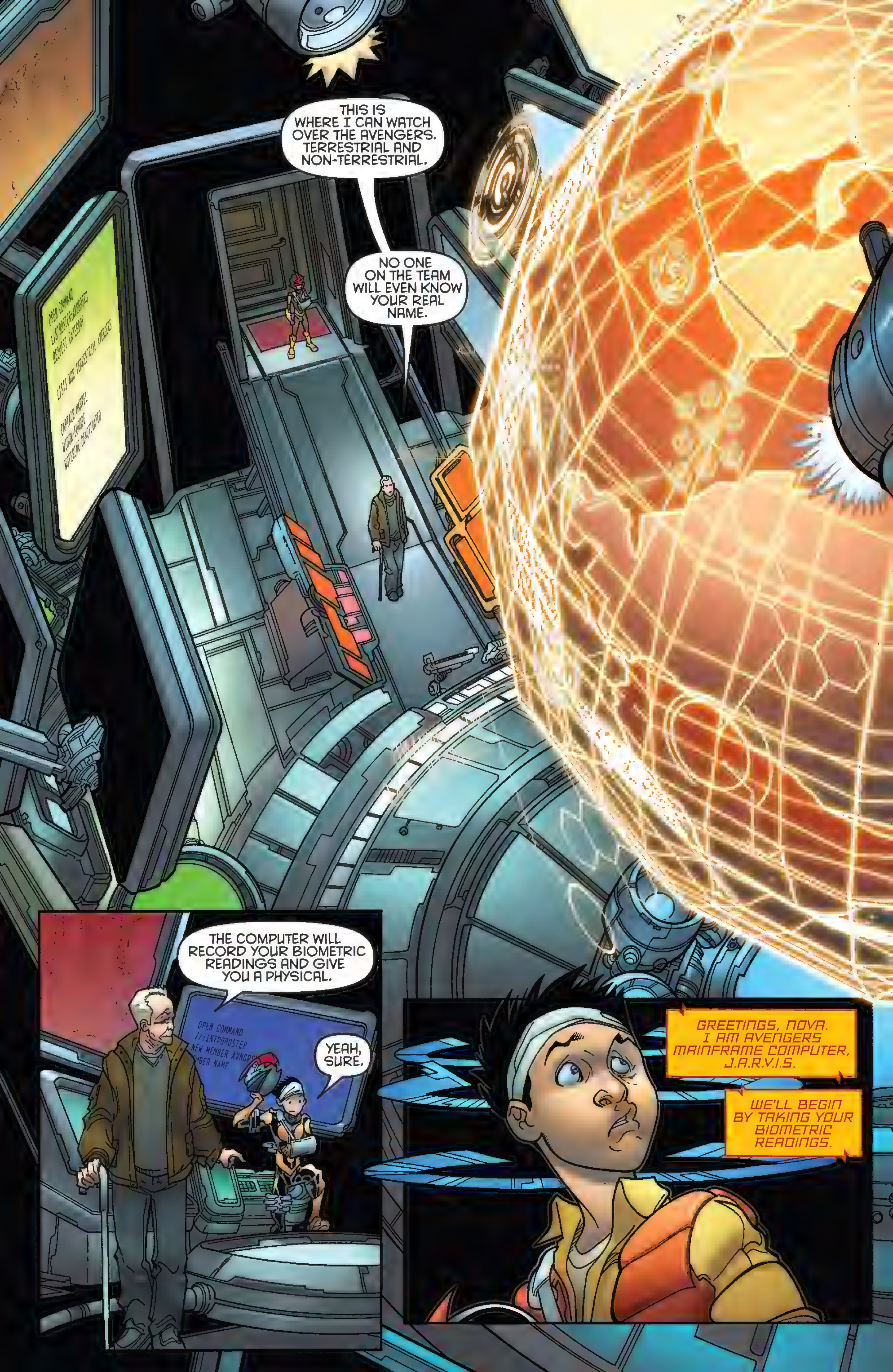


I'M SORRY
YOU DIDN'T HAVE
ANY AVENGERS TO
SEND, BUT--

THERE
ARE *ALWAYS*
AVENGERS,
SAM.







THIS IS
WHERE I CAN WATCH
OVER THE AVENGERS.
TERRESTRIAL AND
NON-TERRESTRIAL.

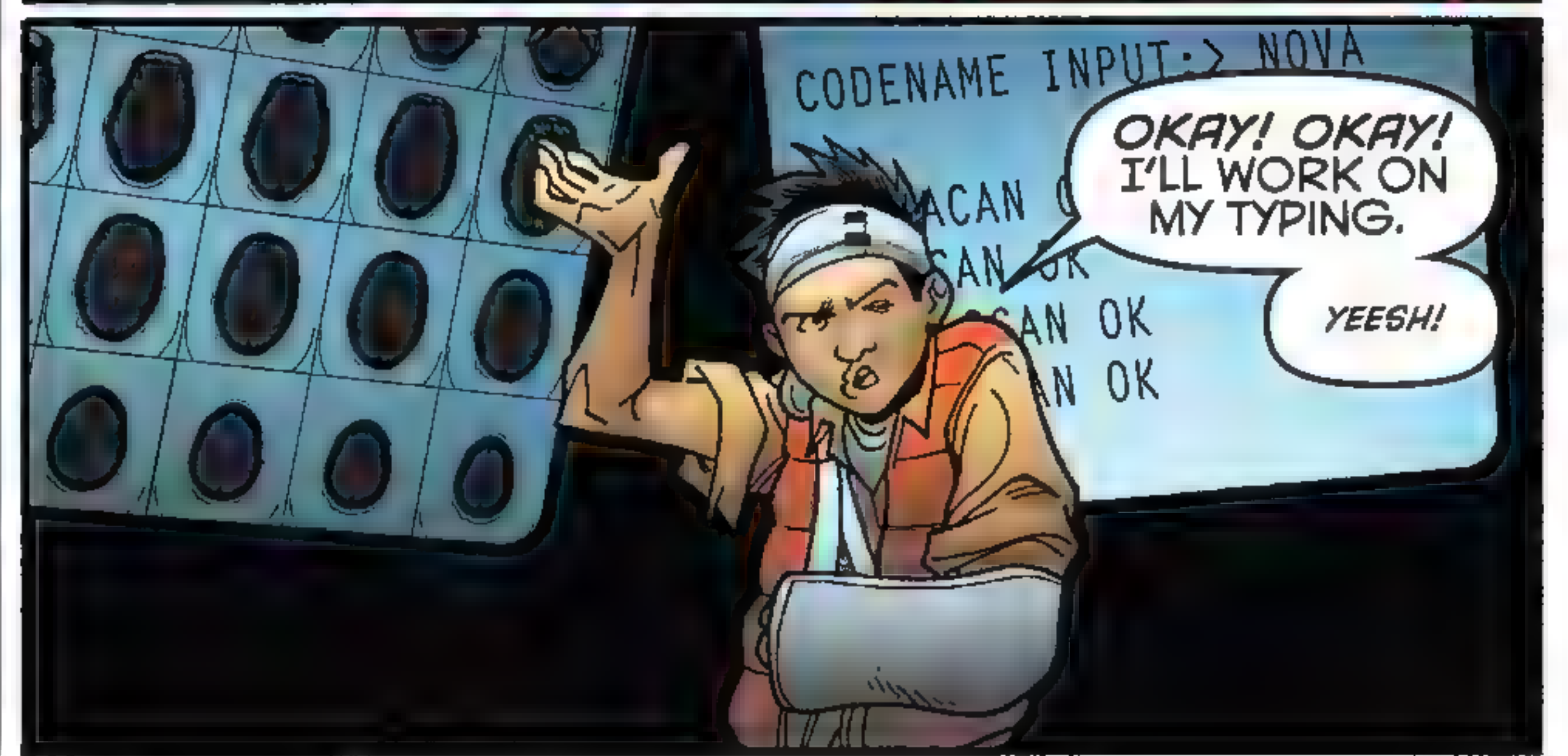
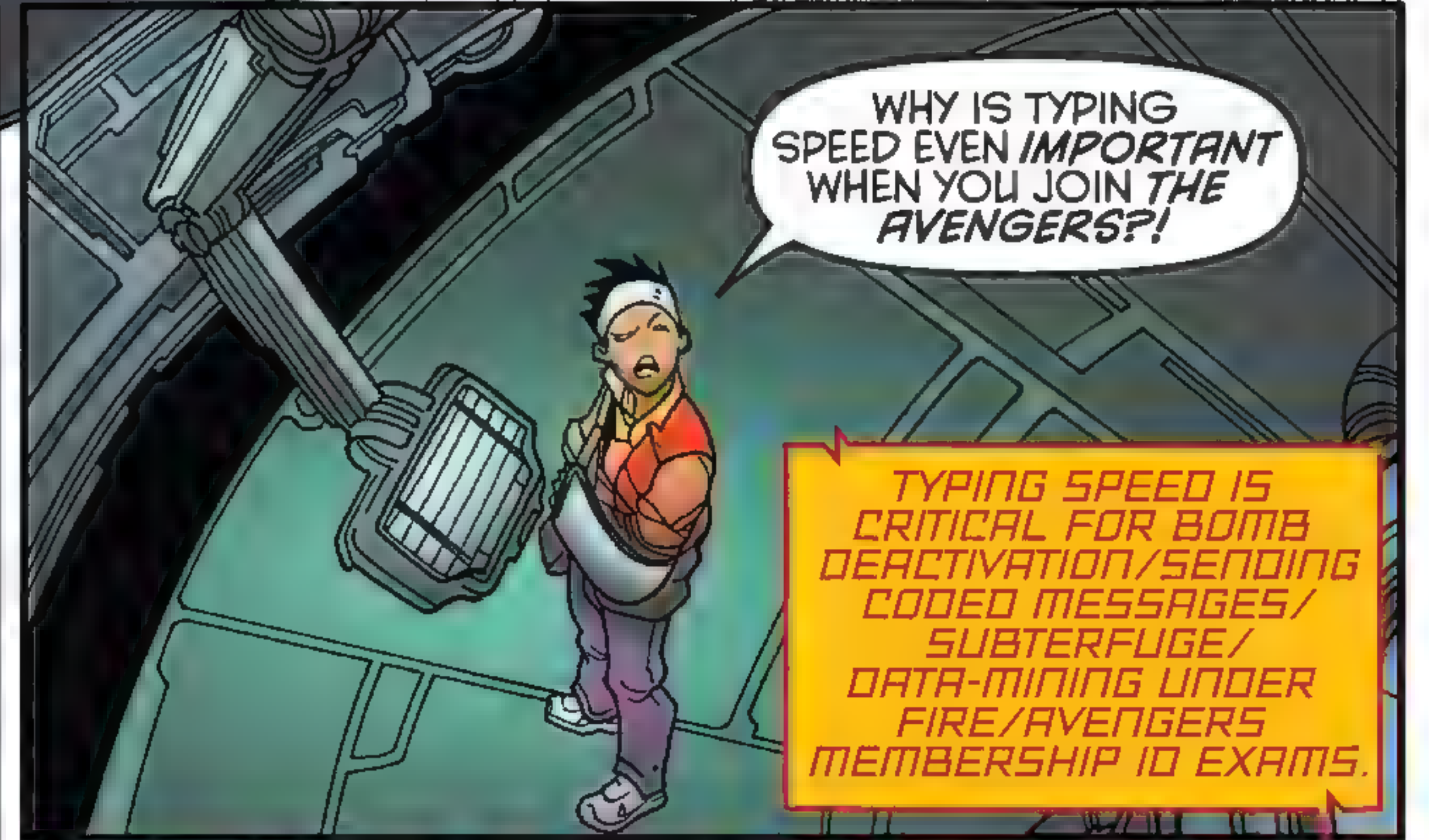
NO ONE
ON THE TEAM
WILL EVEN KNOW
YOUR REAL
NAME.

THE COMPUTER WILL
RECORD YOUR BIOMETRIC
READINGS AND GIVE
YOU A PHYSICAL.

YEAH,
SURE.

GREETINGS, NOVA.
I AM AVENGERS
MAINFRAME COMPUTER,
J.A.R.V.I.S.

WE'LL BEGIN
BY TAKING YOUR
BIOMETRIC
READINGS.



TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES AND
EIGHT MEDICAL TESTS LATER...

I DON'T SEE
WHAT FOOD ALLERGIES
HAVE TO DO WITH
BEING AN AVENGER--
WHOA.

CONGRATULATIONS,
NOVA!

MEET
THE TEAM.

EVEN
HAWKEYE
MADE IT.

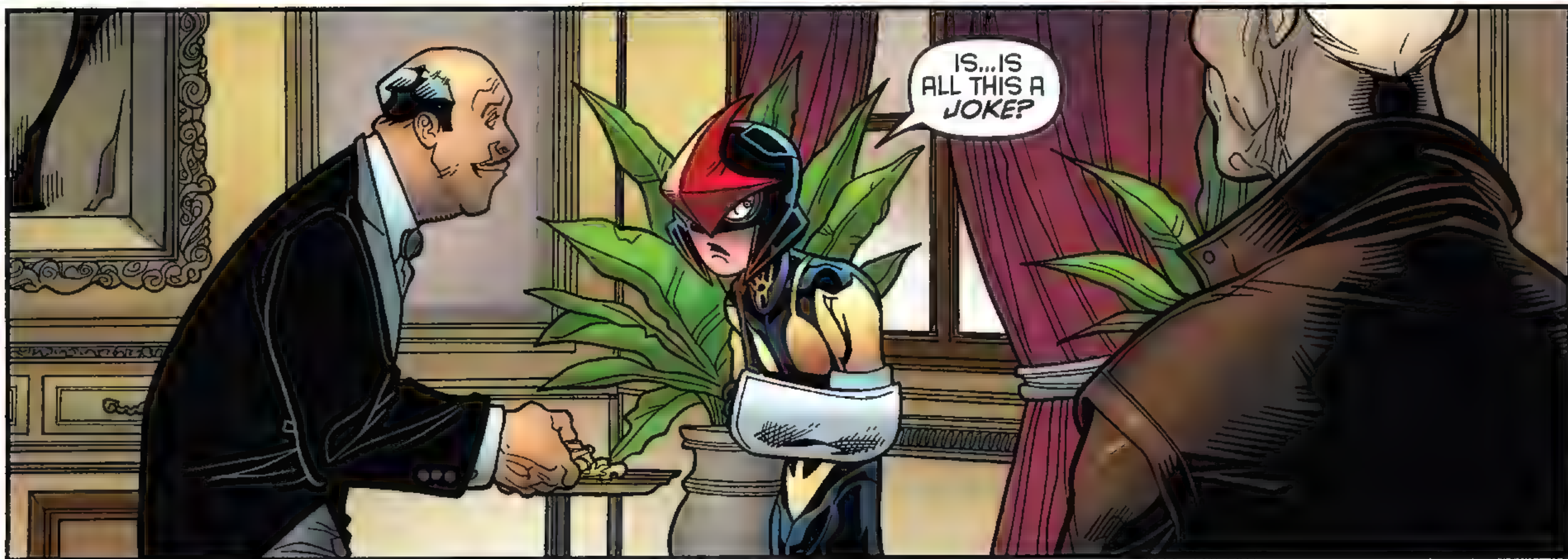
BUT WE
TOLD HIM WE
WERE KICKING
HIM OUT.

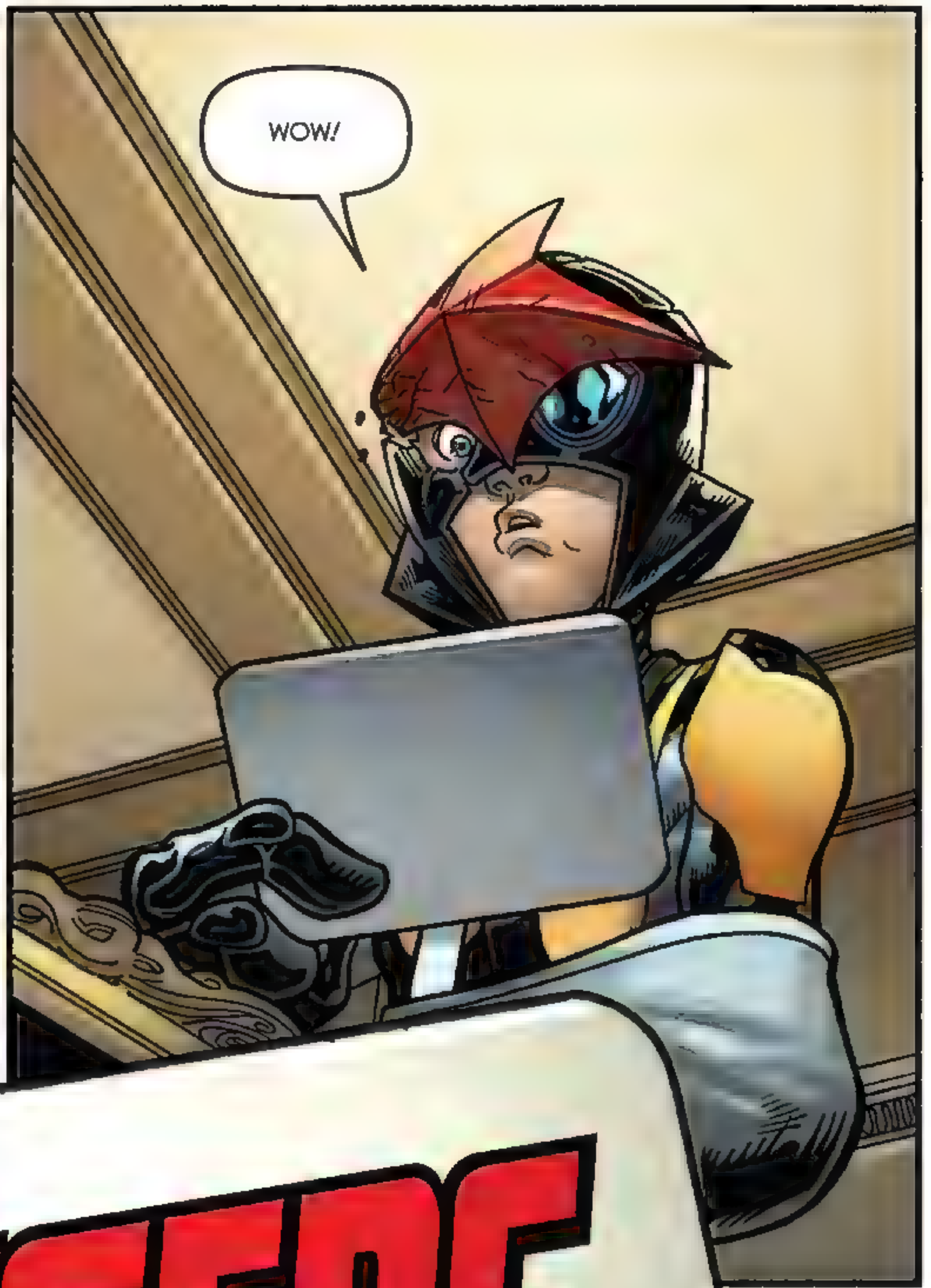
TRUE.

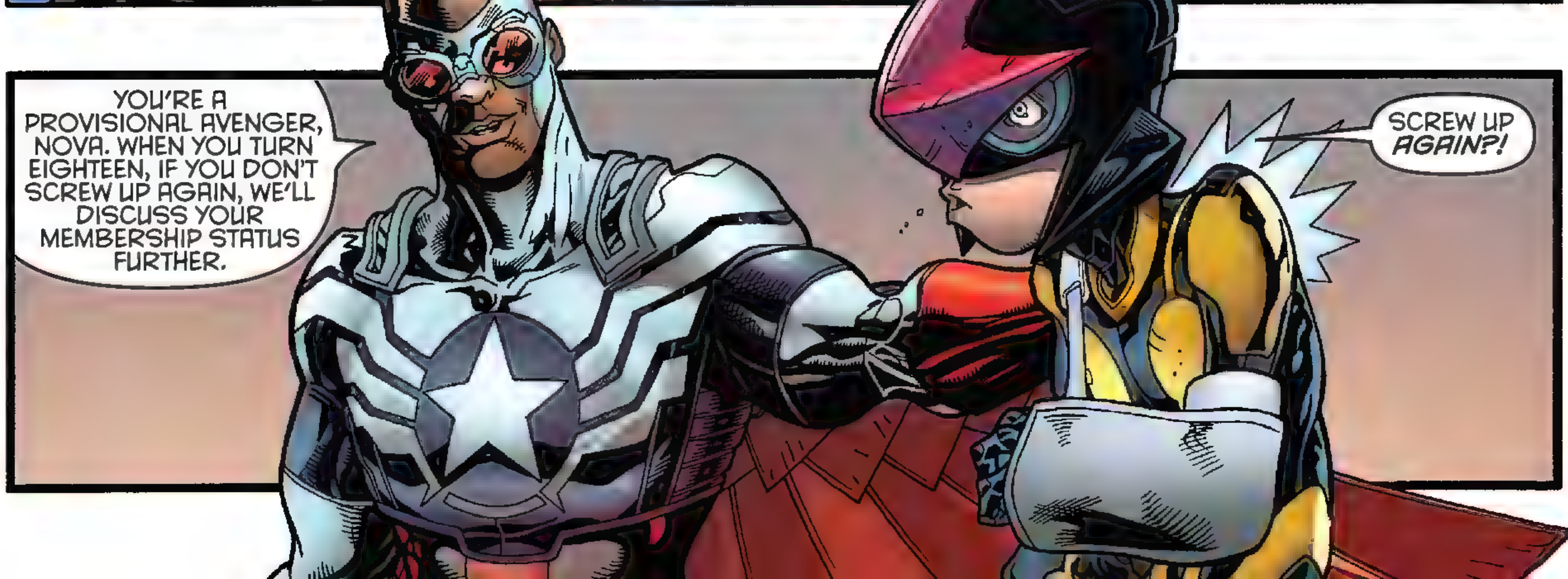
I AM SO PROUD TO BE JOINING
THE AVENGERS. EVEN IF IT'S LIKE,
YOU KNOW, A BACKUP
RESERVE STATUS.

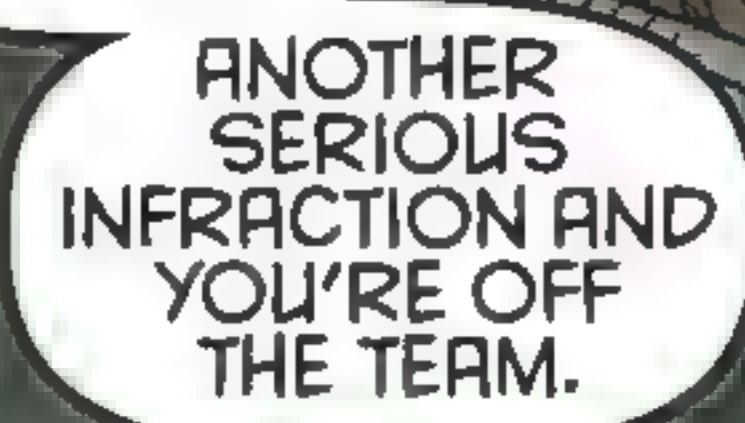
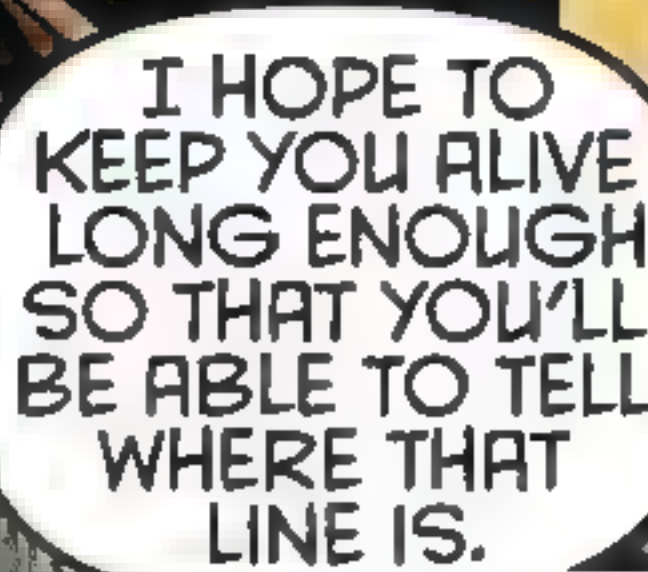
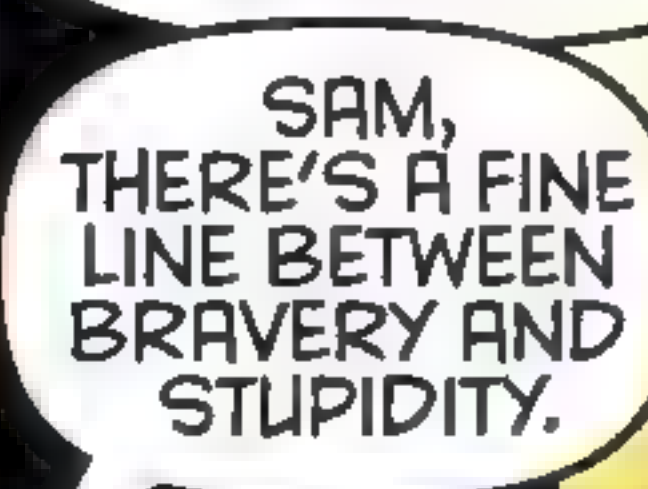
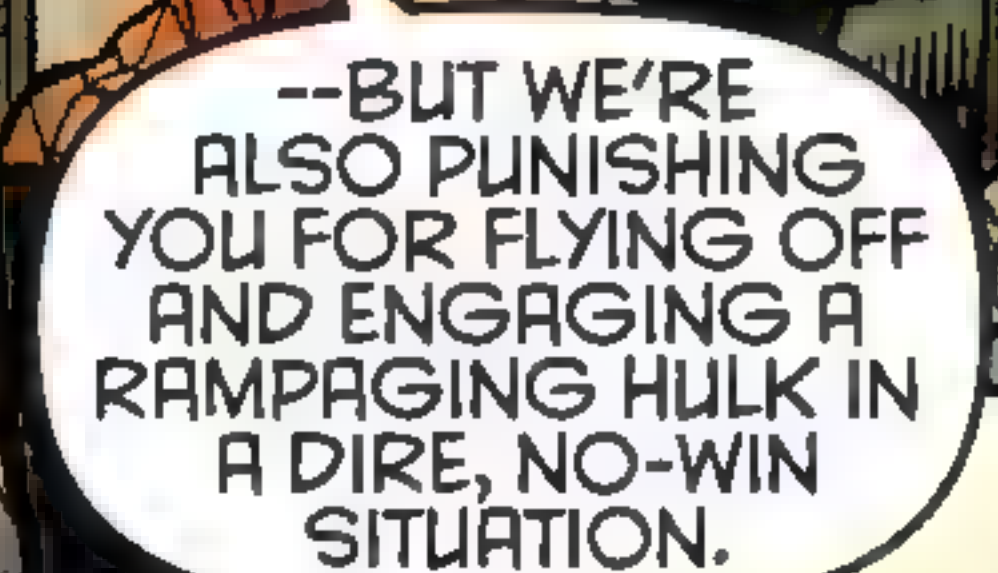
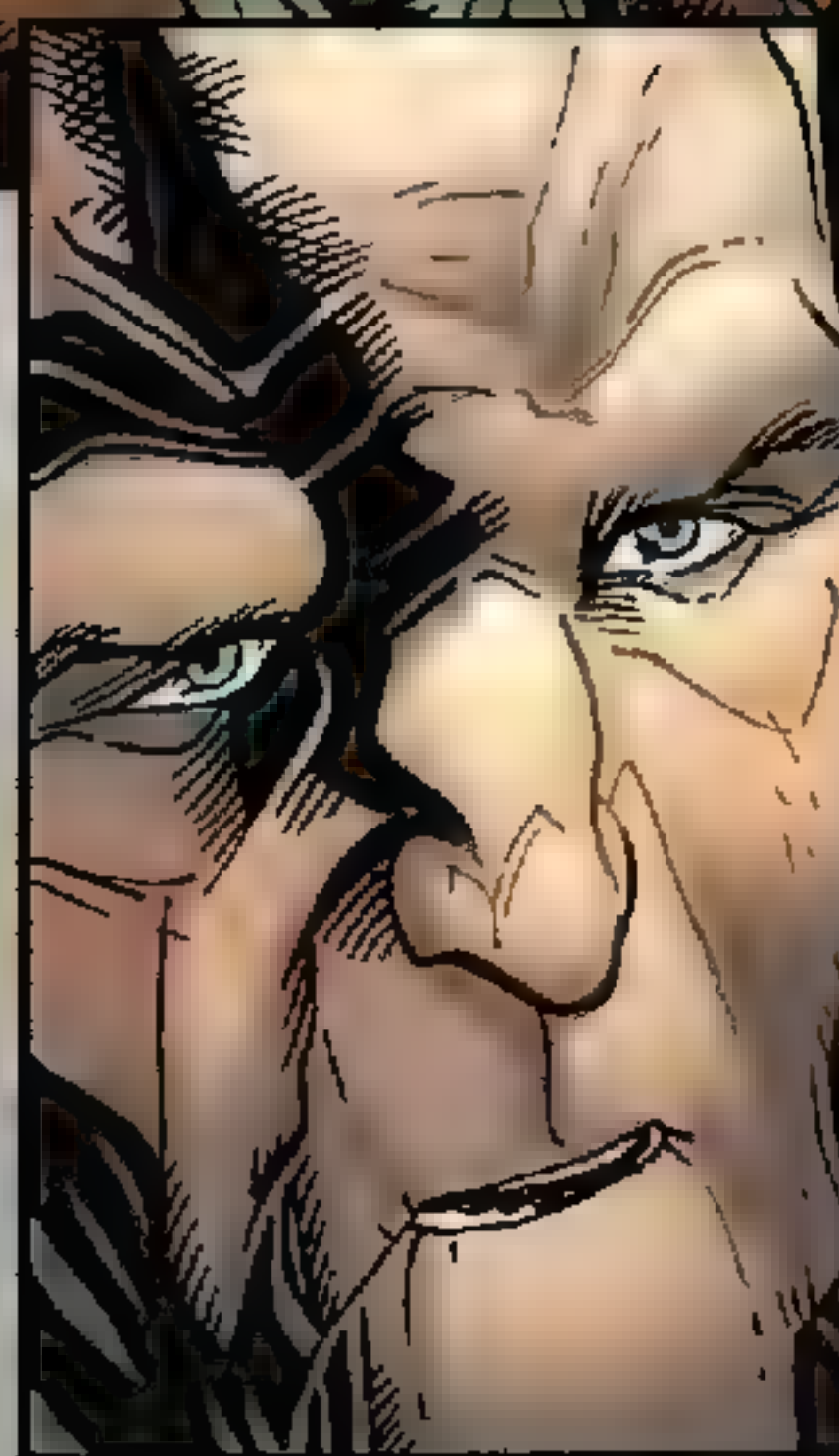
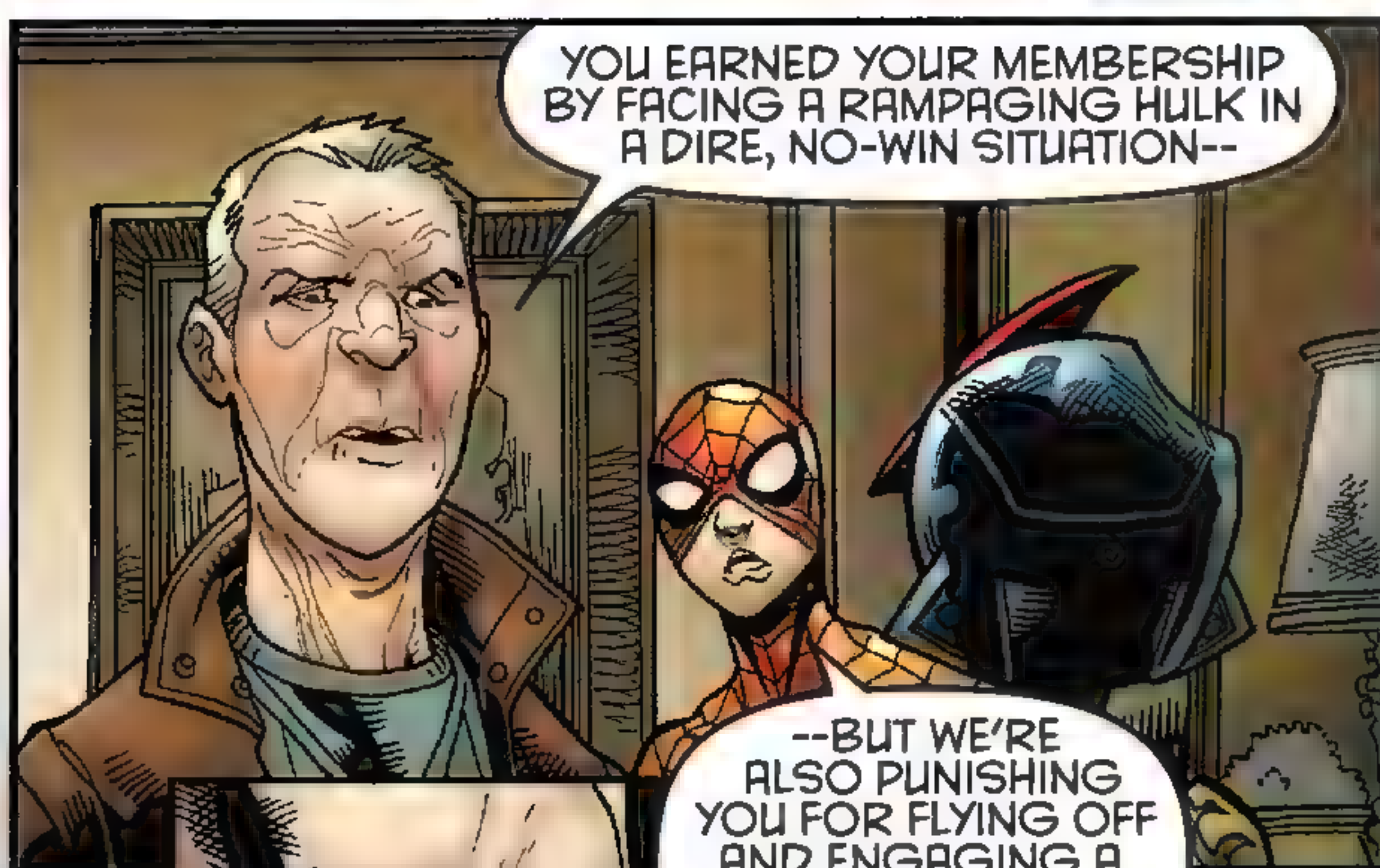
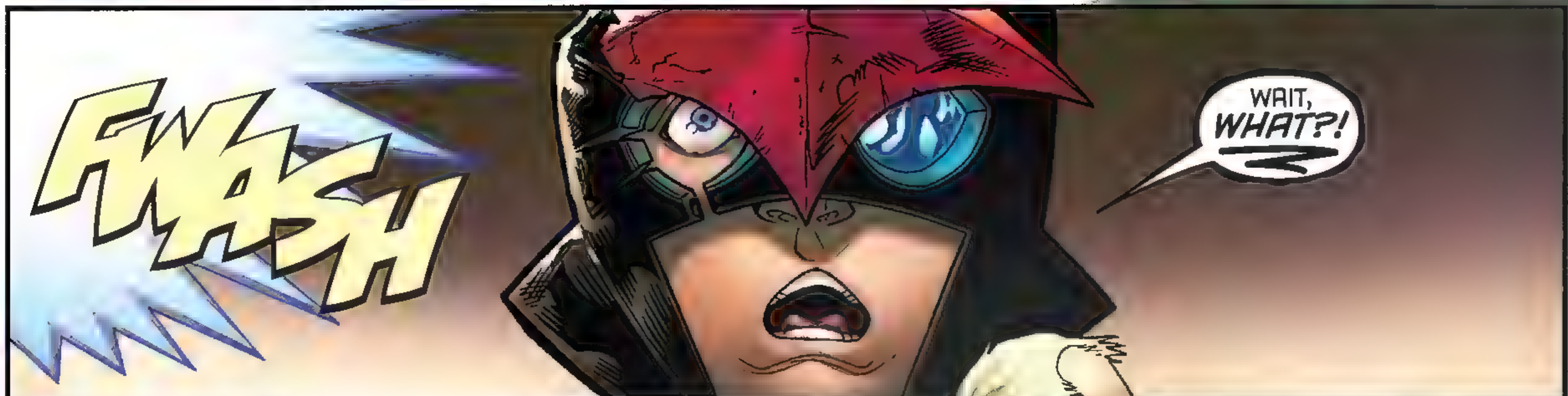
YOU KNOW,
I ALWAYS LOOKED
UP TO YOU GUYS THE
MOST, BESIDES THE
FANTASTIC FOUR.
UH...WHAT ELSE?

OH! AND MOST IMPORTANT: IF
I FALL IN BATTLE, THAT YOU WILL
AVENGE ME. LIKE, I WOULD DO FOR
YOU IF YOU...YOU KNOW.











SAM,
YOU EARNED
THE RIGHT TO
DRINK WITH
ASGARD'S
FINEST...

...WHEN
THOU ART
OLD ENOUGH
TO LIFT A
STEIN.

THANKS,
THOR.



I'M JUST
GLAD HULK
ISN'T HERE.



HE IS NOT SUCH
A ROTTEN FELLOW...
WHEN HE DOESN'T WANT
TO KILL YOU.

DID I EVER TELL YOU
OF THE TIME I SMITED
THE UGLIEST GIANT
IN JOTUNHEIM?

A DRUNK GUY
TELLING TALL TALES...
ONLY MAKES ME MISS
MY DAD EVEN MORE.

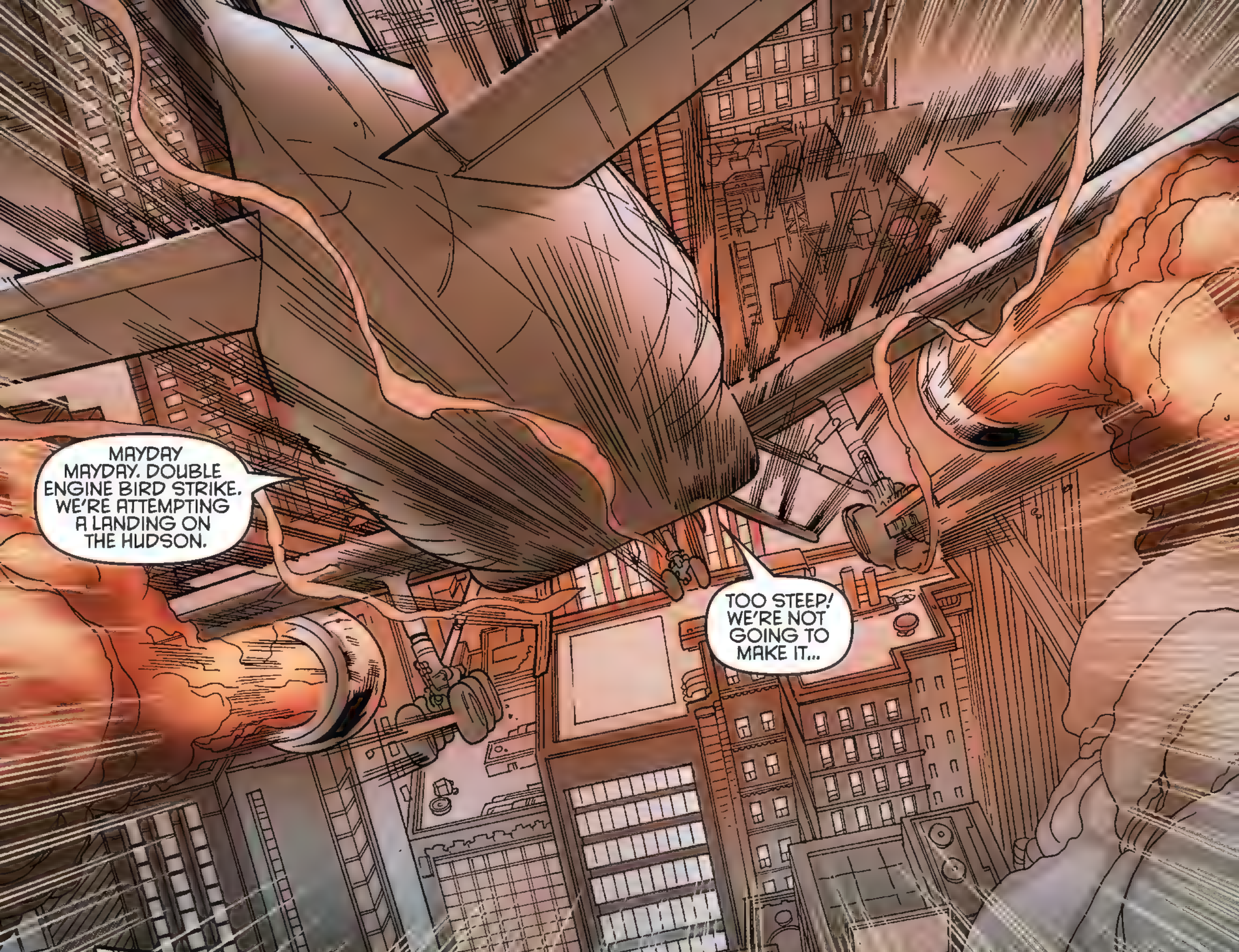
AVENGERS
ASSEMBLE!



IS IT AN
ALIEN INVASION?
MOLE MAN
ATTACK?

NO, IT'S A
BIRD STRIKE.

"THIS IS TX-809.
WE'RE NOT GOING TO
MAKE THE RUNWAY."



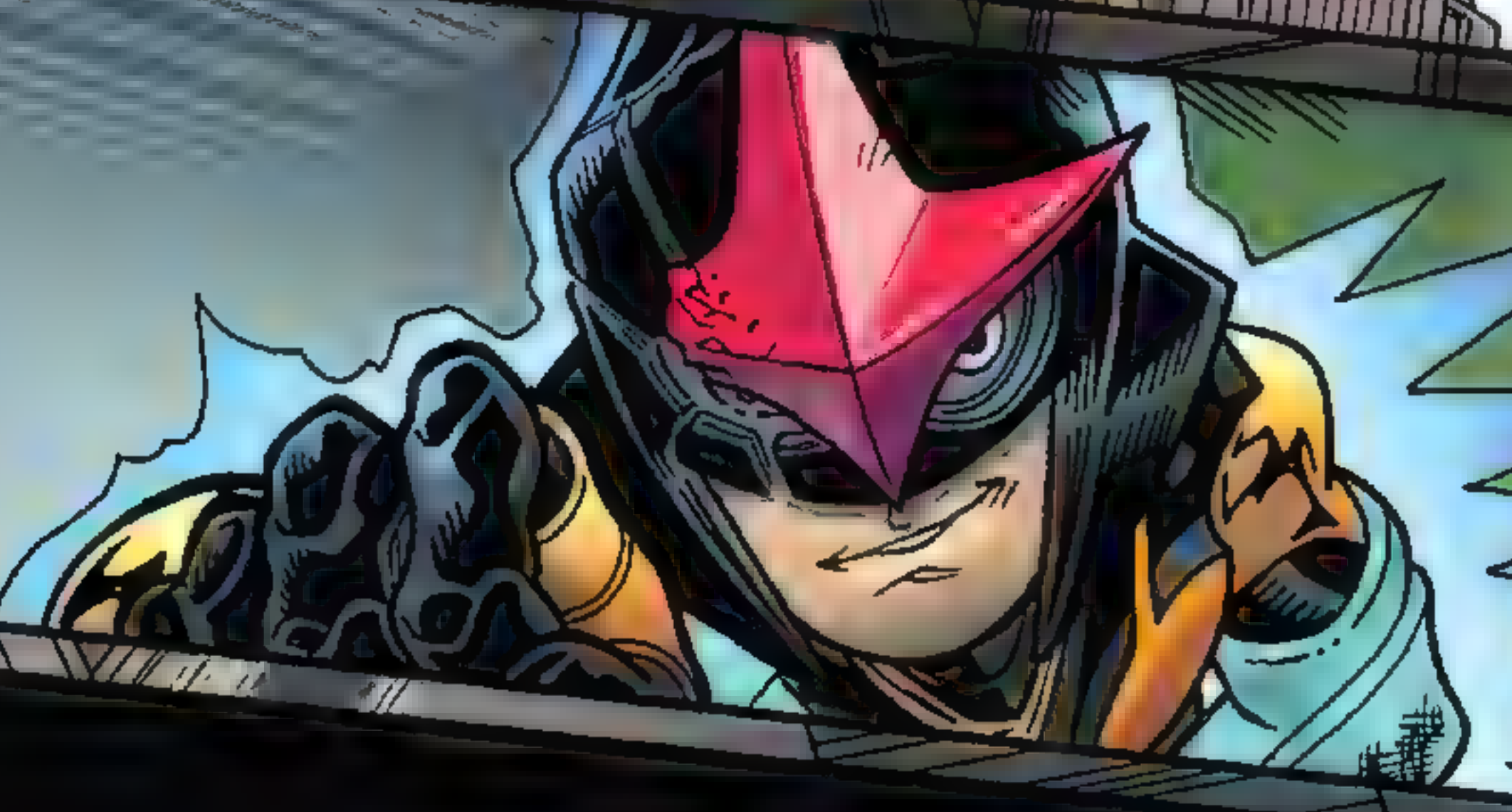
MAYDAY
MAYDAY. DOUBLE
ENGINE BIRD STRIKE.
WE'RE ATTEMPTING
A LANDING ON
THE HUDSON.

TOO STEEP!
WE'RE NOT
GOING TO
MAKE IT...

GO,
NOVA!
GO!

DON'T LET
ME SLOW YOU
DOWN.

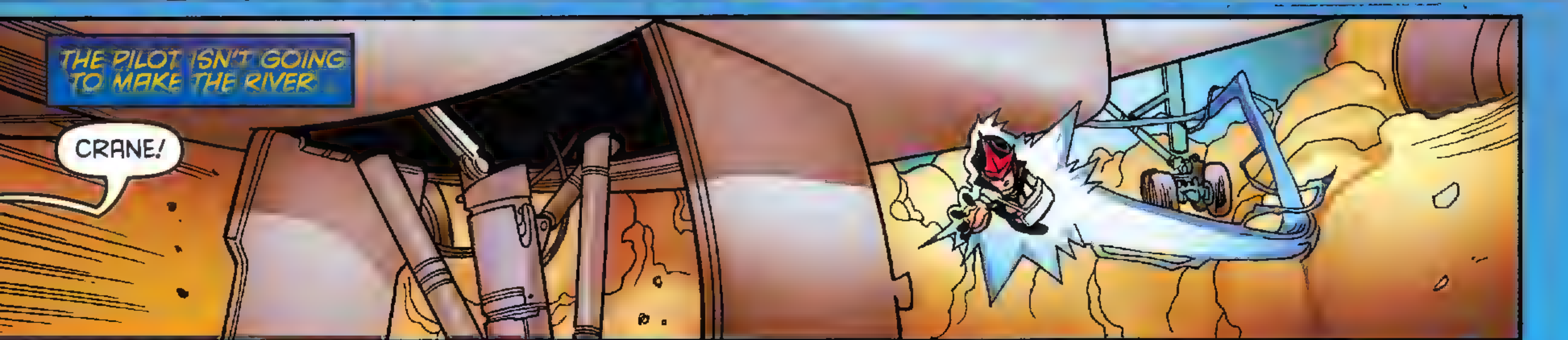
WE'RE
RIGHT BEHIND
YOU.



I POUR ON THE SPEED



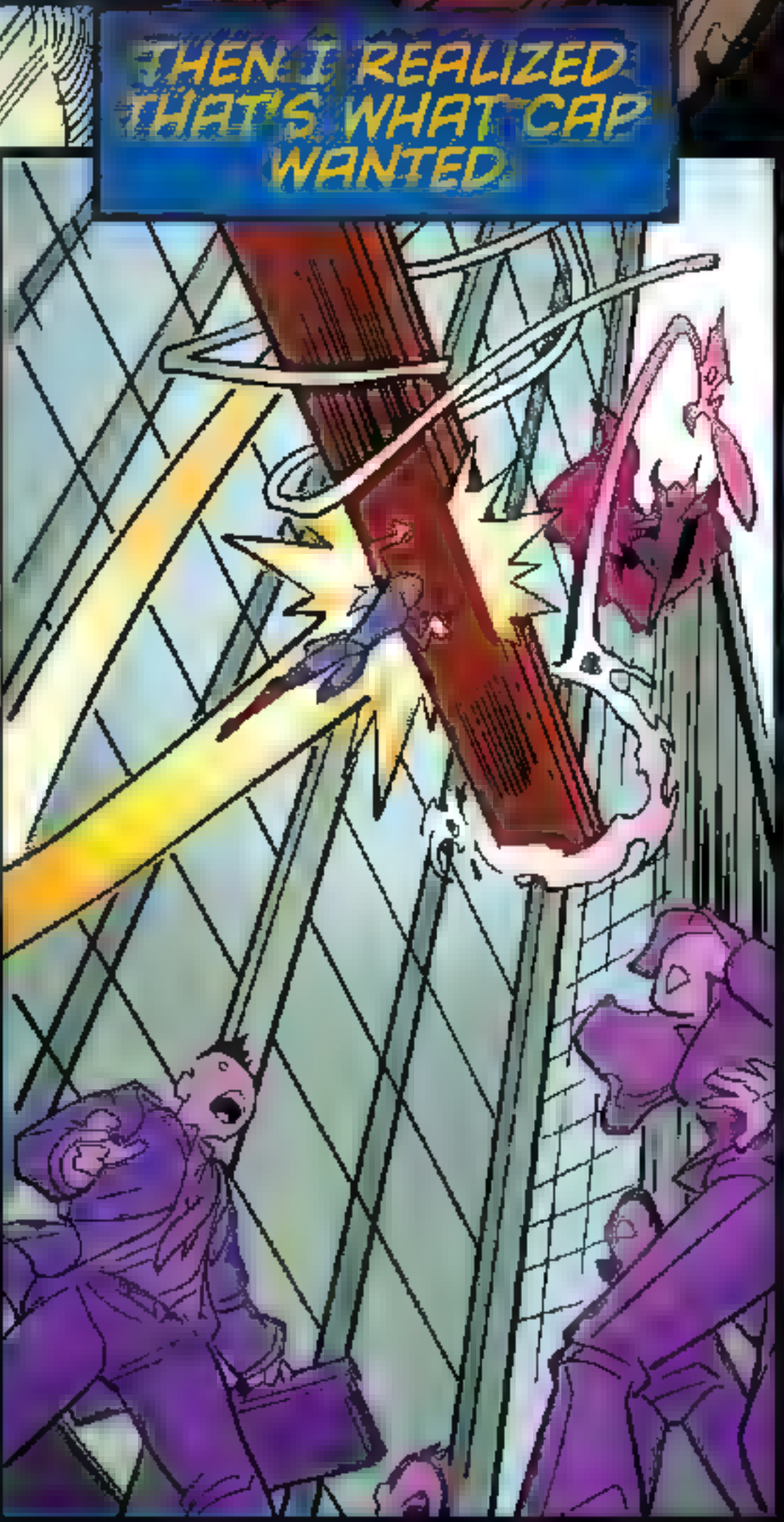
UH-OH! THEY'RE
COMING IN TOO
STEEP! I CAN'T
DO THIS ALONE!





THE PLANE IS SAFE...

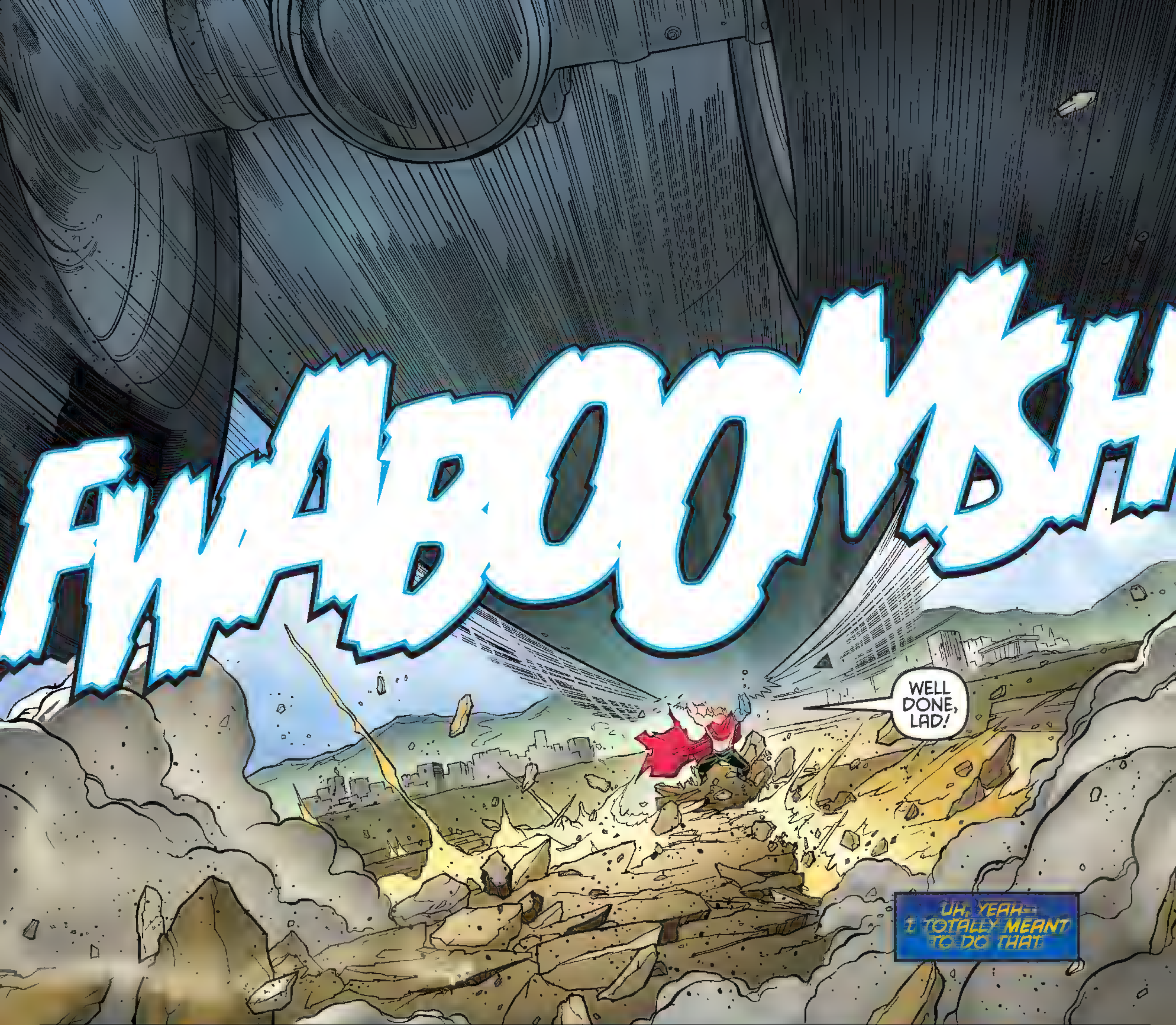
BUT THE PEOPLE IN THE STREET AREN'T.



THEN I REALIZED THAT'S WHAT CAP WANTED.



HEY, I WONDER WHO IS GOING TO SAVE THE PL...



WELL DONE, LAD!

UH, YEAH... I TOTALLY MEANT TO DO THAT



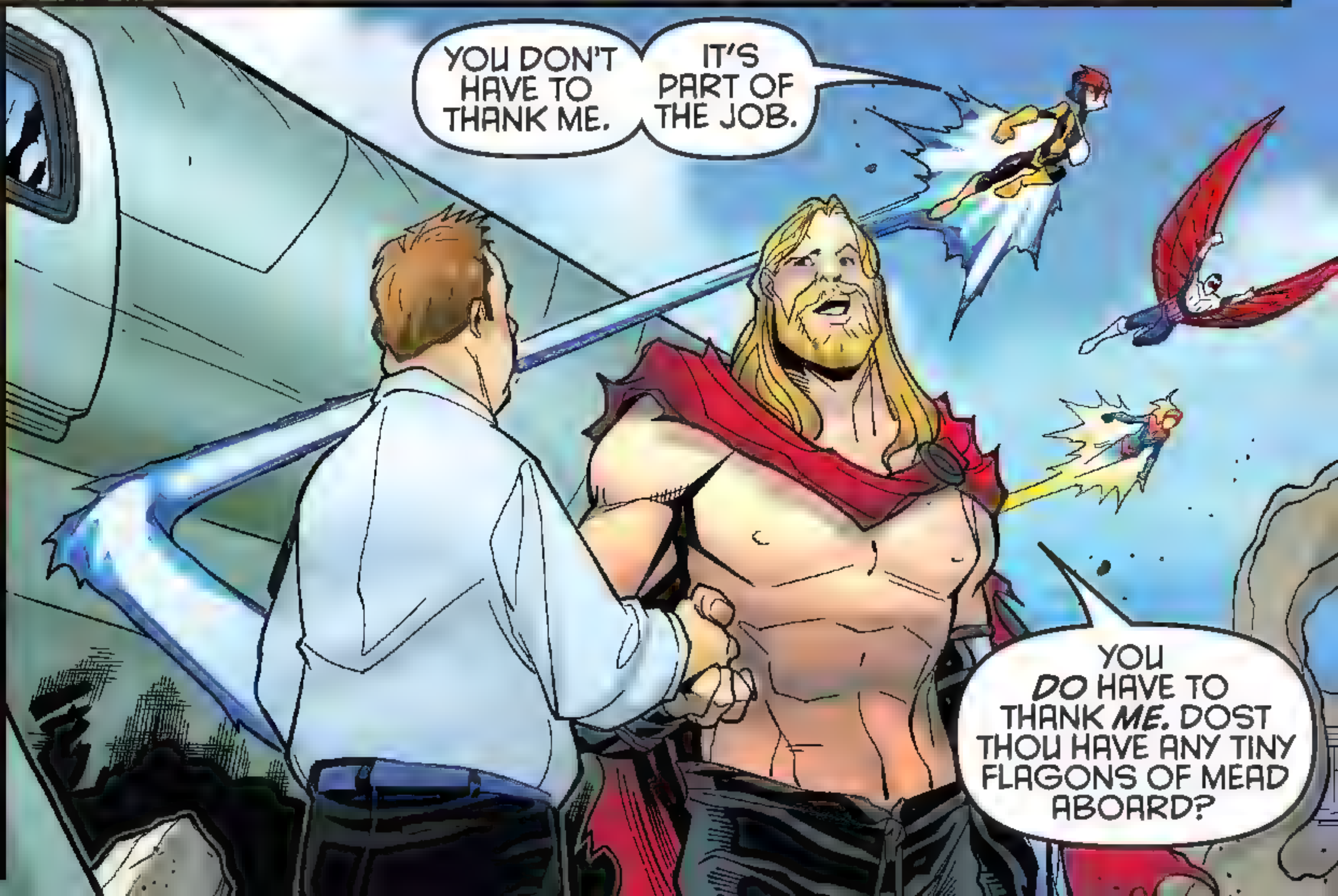
NICE CATCH, THOR!

IT DIDN'T EVEN OCCUR TO ME THAT IF THE NOVA FORCE HAD GLITCHED THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE END...



THANK YOU!

THAT'S WHAT THIS TEAM IS ABOUT PUTTING EVERYONE ELSE FIRST.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO THANK ME.

IT'S PART OF THE JOB.

YOU DO HAVE TO THANK ME. DOST THOU HAVE ANY TINY FLAGONS OF MEAD ABOARD?



WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THAT BUSTED HELMET?

I THINK... I KNOW A PLACE WHERE I CAN FIX IT... BUT IT'S IN DEEP SPACE.



CHECK IN WITH BEAST AT THE JEAN GREY SCHOOL. HE MAY HAVE SOME IDEAS.

I WILL! AND THANK YOU AGAIN, SIR. I WON'T LET YOU DOWN.



SEE YA, NOVA! I THINK HE'LL BRING A LOT TO THE TEAM ONE DAY.

MAYBE. MAYBE NOT... BUT THE AVENGERS ID CARD MIGHT KEEP HIM ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO BECOME A MAN. MAYBE HE'LL CALL FOR BACKUP WHEN HE'S IN OVER HIS HEAD.

SO... THE SAME REASON HAWKEYE IS A MEMBER, RIGHT?



I'VE KNOWN TOO MANY KIDS WHO RISKED THEIR LIVES RUSHING HEADLONG INTO DANGER.

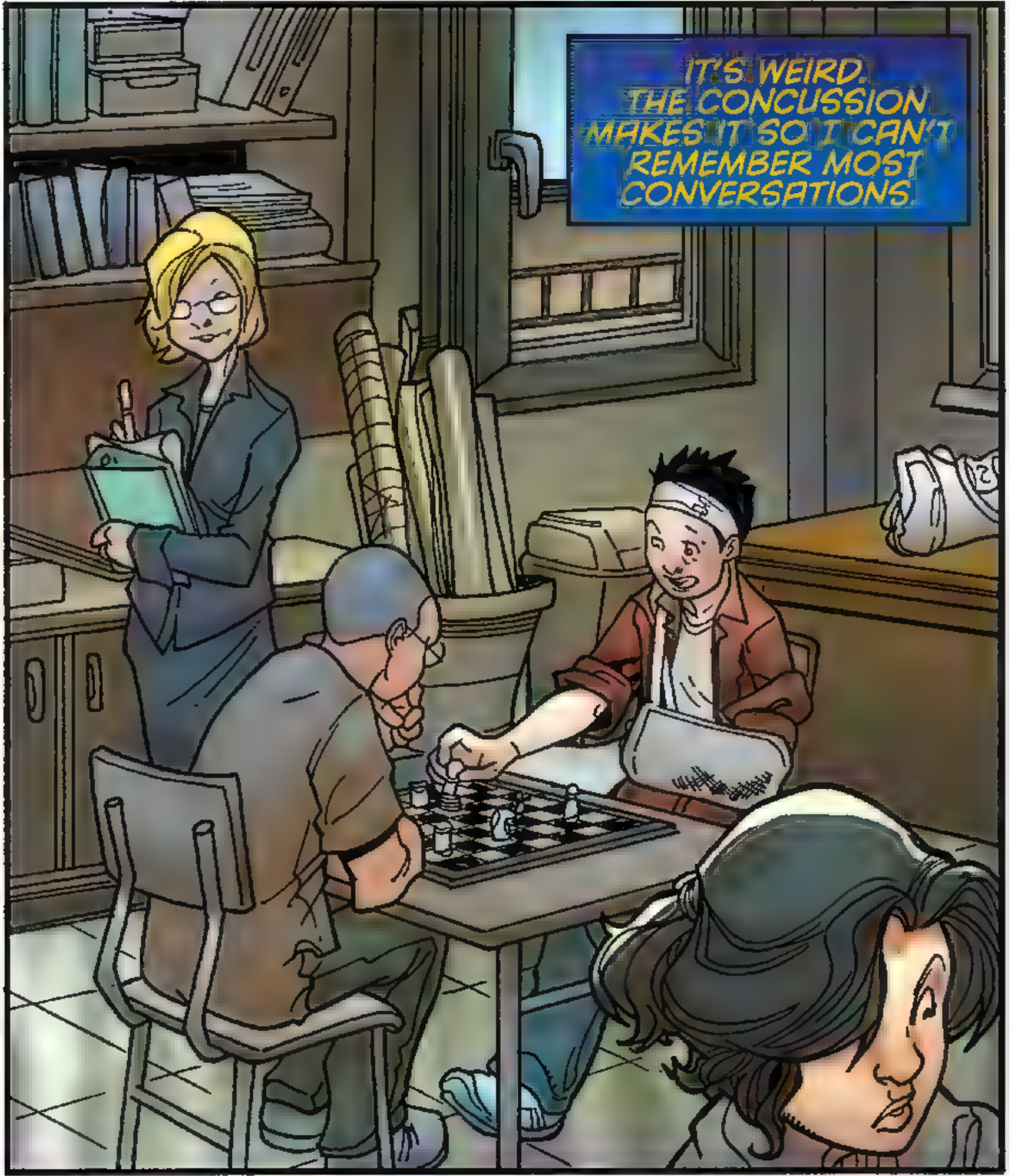
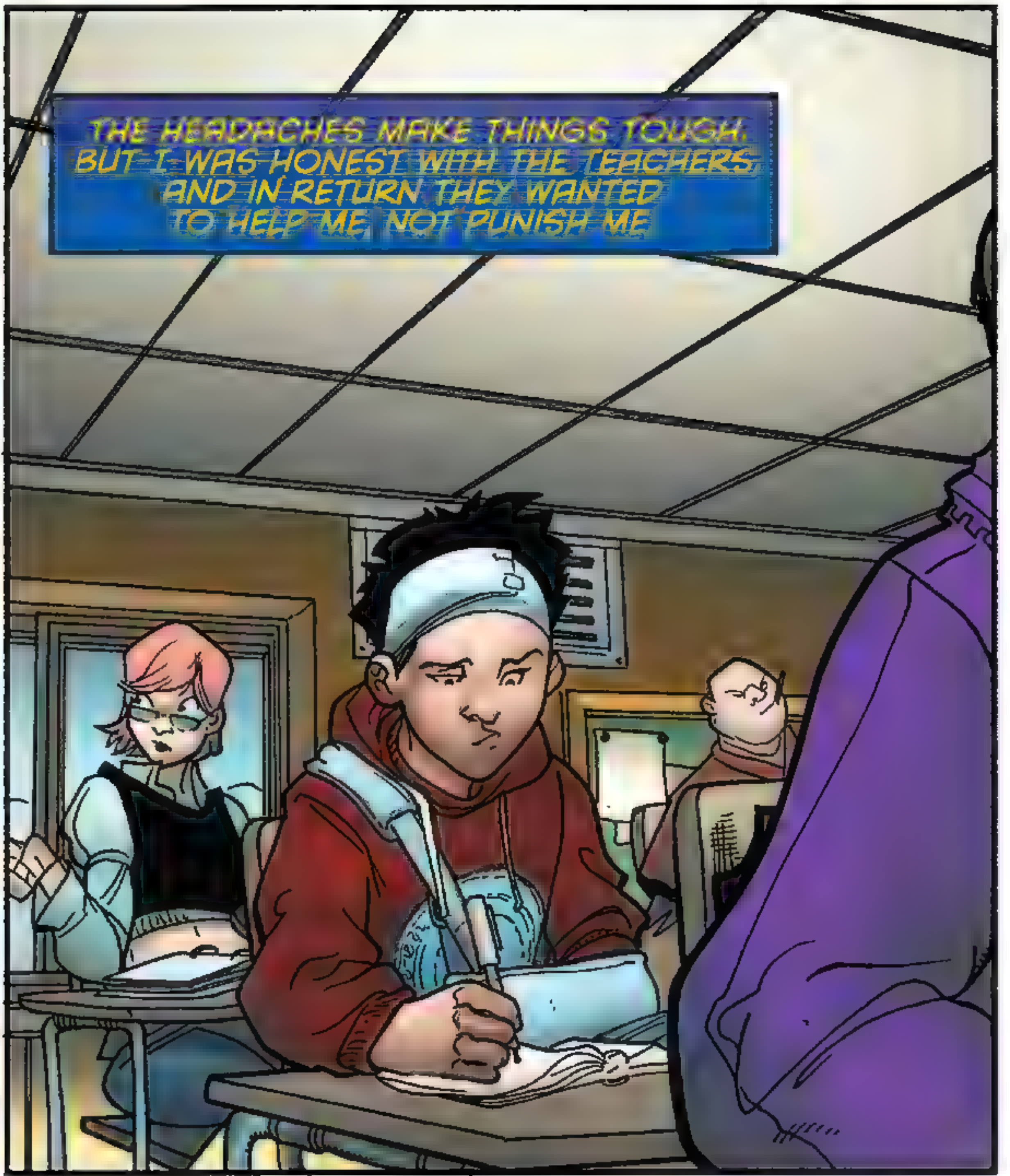
UH, WE'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT NOVA, RIGHT?

I'M ASHAMED TO ADMIT IT, BUT WHEN I FIRST BECAME NOVA I WANTED POWER, AND FAME. I WANTED TO TURN BEING NOVA INTO BECOMING A MILLIONAIRE.

LUCKILY I WAS TOO STUPID TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN, BECAUSE AFTER I GOT MY AVENGERS ID CARD I REALIZED I WAS HERE NOT FOR MYSELF BUT FOR EVERYONE ELSE.

I CAN'T SHARE THESE PICTURES FOR ANYONE TO "FAVORITE" OR "LIKE"... BUT I DON'T CARE.

I FELT I WAS ON THE RIGHT PATH, AND AFTER THAT DAY AT THE AVENGERS MANSION, I KNEW I WAS RIGHT.





WHEN YOU'RE IN MY LINE OF WORK YOU CAN'T INSTAGRAM YOUR BEST MOMENTS.



I KNOW GETTING MY AVENGERS ID CARD HAPPENED, BUT IT STILL DOESN'T SEEM REAL, EVEN WHEN I'M LOOKING AT SPIDEY'S PICTURES.



I LET MYSELF BE PROUD OF THAT ONE DAY.

SAM, DON'T LET THAT CARD GO TO YOUR HEAD.

THERE'S NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR SECRET IDENTITY. FOR YOU, FOR ME, AND ESPECIALLY FOR YOUR SISTER.

TRUST ME, MOM. I WOULD NEVER, NEVER LET MY SECRET OUT.



"S'CUSE ME, BUT AH'M LOOKIN' FER SAM ALEXANDER."



NOVA[®]



CARNAGE HUNGERS

MARVEL

DUGGAN
BALDEON
PALLOT
VLASCO
CURIEL

026

NOVA

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PENCILER **JOHN TIMMS**

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PUBLISHER **DAN BUCKLEY** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER **ALAN FINE**

PREVIOUSLY...

Sam Alexander's father, Jesse, used to tell him stories about the intergalactic Nova Corps, a peacekeeping force throughout the galaxy. Sam always thought these stories were just that – stories – until one day his father went missing, and Sam found his old helmet, becoming the interstellar hero called Nova!

Recently, Sam got caught up in a huge event where many heroes and villains were involved – Carnage among them. The super serial killer became a hero and worked with Nova. In the end, though, everyone reverted back to their usual selves.

For Nova, however, everything wasn't back to normal. His helmet got damaged in a fight with the Hulk and is still on the fritz.



CHAPTER XXVI: LOOK WHAT THE BUS DRAGGED IN

SOMEWHERE IN DEEP SPACE

**BREAK
IT UP!**

IF WE'RE
NOT CAREFUL,
WE'RE GOING TO
DIE OUT HERE.

WE'RE
RUNNING LOW
ON FUEL, FOOD, AND
MOST OF ALL--
PATIENCE.

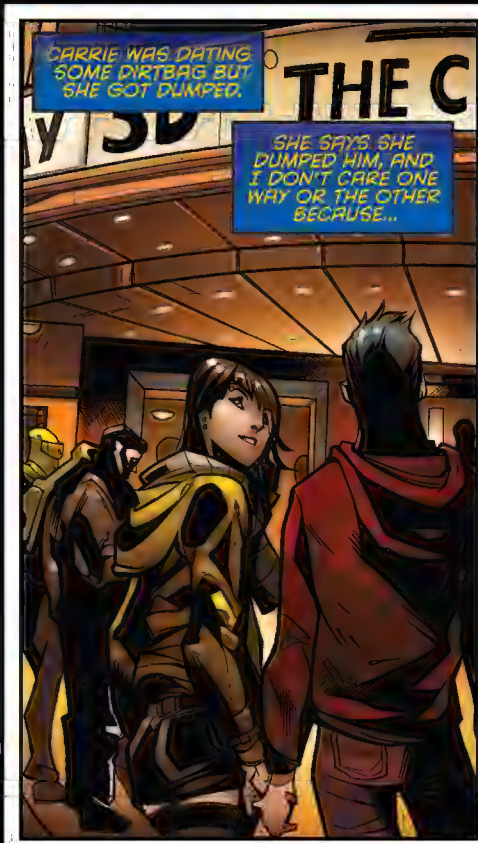
WE WERE
TRAINED TO KILL
EACH OTHER, SO
I'M NOT SURPRISED
THAT WE'RE NOT
WORKING WELL
TOGETHER.

IF
WE CAN'T
GET HOME,
WHERE WOULD
YOU HAVE
US GO?

WE'RE *ALL*
GOING HOME...
IT WON'T BE EASY,
AND WE'RE GOING
TO HAVE TO GET TO
THE END OF THE
UNIVERSE.

WE
HAVE TO GO TO
KNOWHERE.

**I'M A REAL
CONTRADICTION.**



MISS SCHAEFER'S
AFTER-SCHOOL CHESS CLUB.

I'M IMPRESSED
WITH YOUR PLAY
LATELY, SAM. YOU USED
TO CHARGE JUST TO SEE
HOW MANY PIECES YOU
COULD TAKE FROM ME.
I CAN SEE YOUR
WHEELS TURNING.

I WAS
BEATING YOU UP
PRETTY GOOD
BEFORE, NOW IT
LOOKS LIKE THIS
GAME WILL END IN A
STALEMATE. THERE
ARE WORSE
OUTCOMES.

STILL, IT FEELS
LIKE I SHOULD BE
DOING SOMETHING
MORE.

YOU CAN
CASTLE.

WHAT'S
THAT?

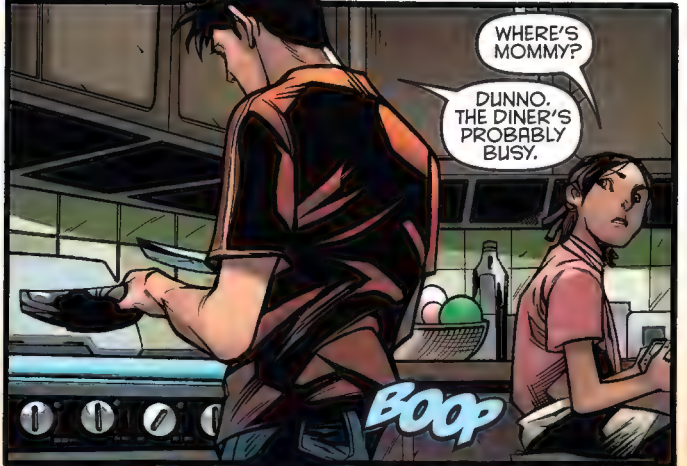
UNDER
CERTAIN
CIRCUMSTANCES
THE KING AND ROOK
CAN PERFORM A
UNIQUE MANEUVER.
YOU CAN USE IT TO
GET OUT OF
TROUBLE...

...OR AS A
MISDIRECTION.

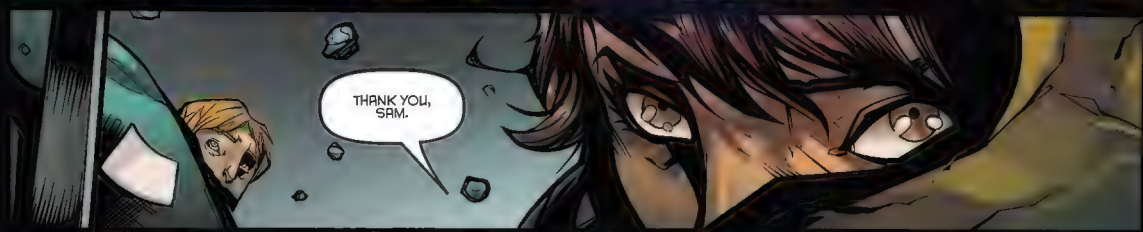
IT'S BEEN
NICE TO HAVE
YOU BACK THE
LAST FEW WEEKS,
SAM.

I HAVE TO
PICK UP MY
SISTER FROM
SCHOOL. SEE
YOU NEXT
TIME!











THERE YOU GO!
I REMEMBER WHAT YOU TOLD ME!

WHAT DID I TELL YOU, YOU MANIAC?!

THAT YOU'RE SAM ALEXANDER! YOU LIVE HERE--
YEAOW!

THOOM!

COME AND GET SOME, SAMMY BOY!

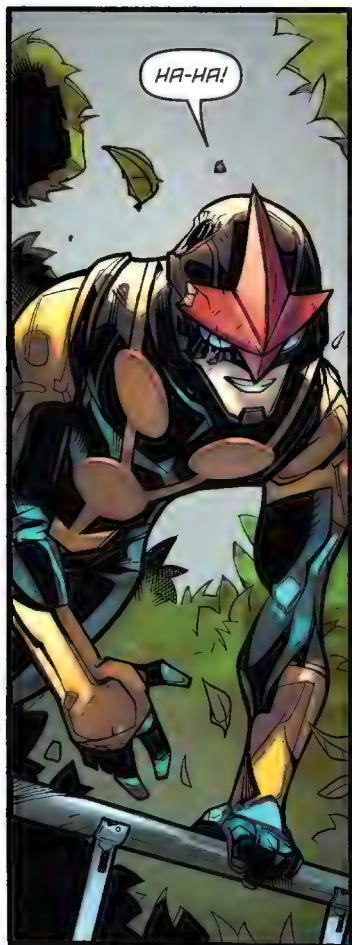
BUS STOP

=OOOF!=

SKRASH

LISTEN, YOU SAID YOUR NAME WAS CLETUS, RIGHT? SO I GOT THE HINT-- AND I GAVE YOU A FAKE NAME TOO.

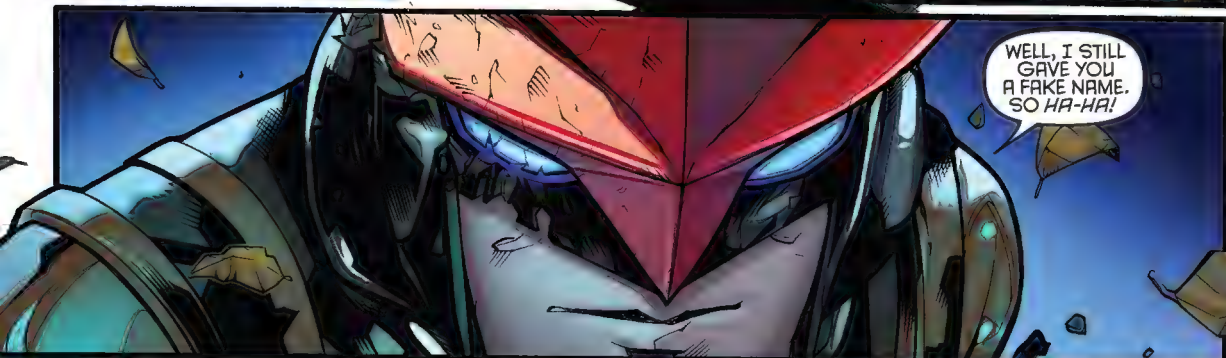
CLETUS IS MY REAL NAME.



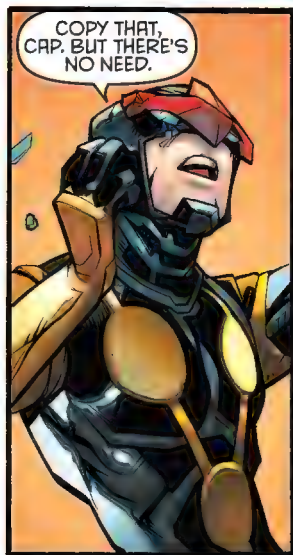
HA-HA!



HA-HEH.



WELL, I STILL
GAVE YOU
A FAKE NAME.
SO HA-HA!



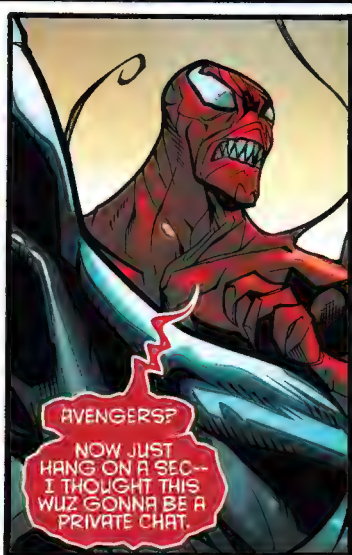
COPY THAT,
CAP. BUT THERE'S
NO NEED.



BUS
STOP

STAND
DOWN, FELLOW
AVENGERS...

...I'LL
HANDLE
THIS.



AVENGERS?

NOW JUST
HANG ON A SEC--
I THOUGHT THIS
WUZ GONNA BE A
PRIVATE CHAT.

I'VE MADE A
TERRIBLE MISTAKE.



I CAN KINDA REMEMBER
SHAKING HANDS WITH THIS CLOWN
BACK AT AVENGERS MANSION.
WHEN ALL THE HEROES WERE JERKS.
GUYS LIKE CARNAGE WERE
ACTUALLY NOT BAD.

DOES THAT WHOLE FIRSCO HAVE
A NAME? SECRET... INVERSION?

ANYWAY, AFTER I GOT MY HELMET DENTED
I THINK I BLURTED MY NAME AT HIM.

I DUNNO HOW I'M
GOING TO FIX THIS ONE.

BACK IN
NOVA 24
--NICK

YAARGH!

MI
GO

THIS IS
SO COOL!
I'M FINALLY
THE *SMART*
ONE IN A
FIGHT!

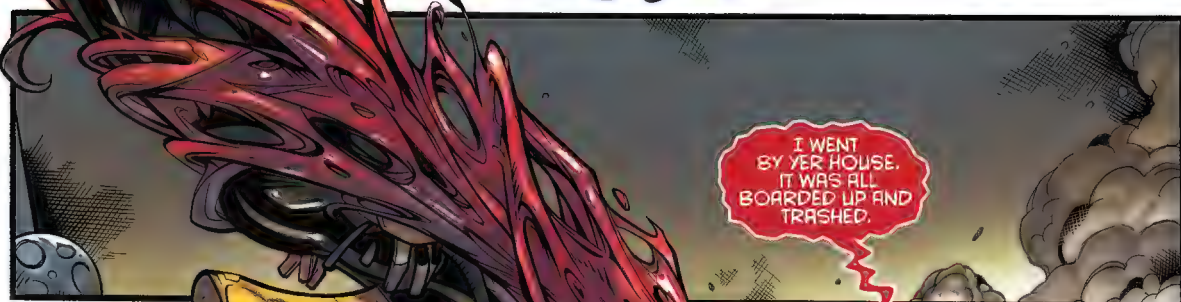
VMMMSPOOTS



SAY BYE,
TO CAREFREE!
IN FACT, SAY
GOODBYE TO
EARTH. I'M
GONNA--

OH,
GROSS!

GLOORMPH



I WENT
BY YER HOUSE.
IT WAS ALL
BOARDED UP AND
TRASHED.



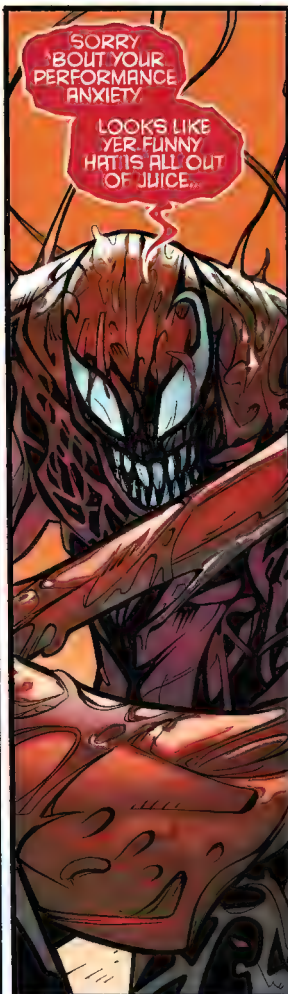
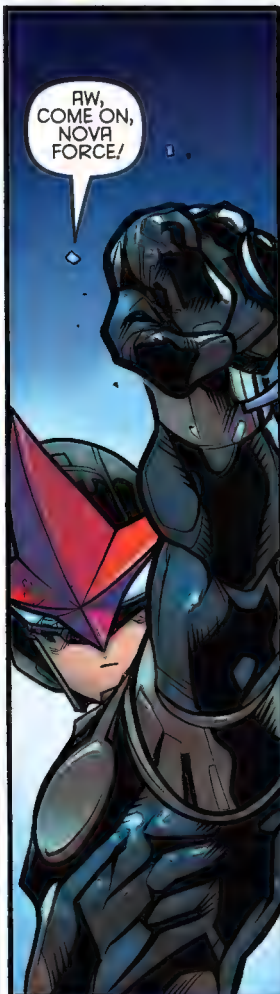
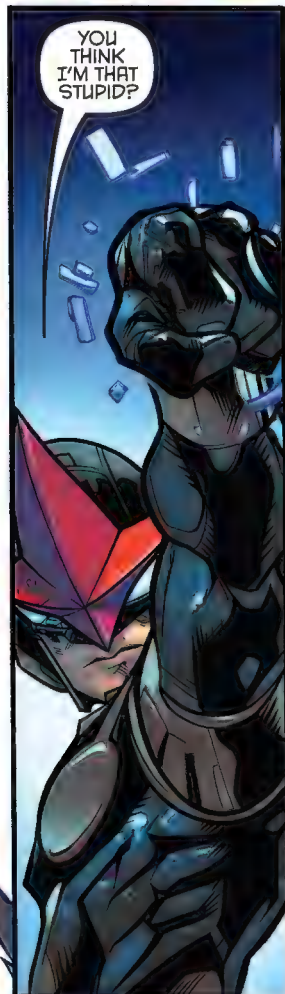
WHAT
HAPPENED?
Y'ALL GET
FERCLOSED
ON?



NO!

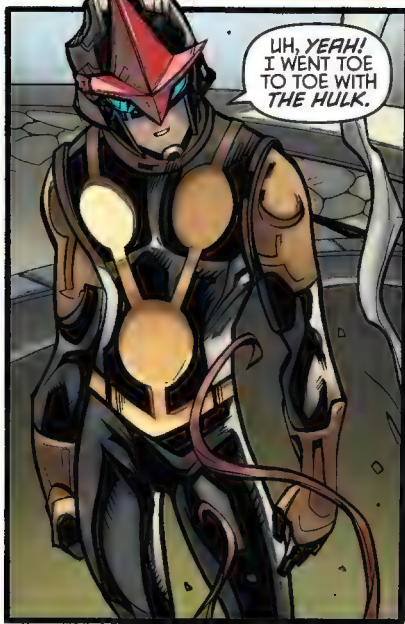
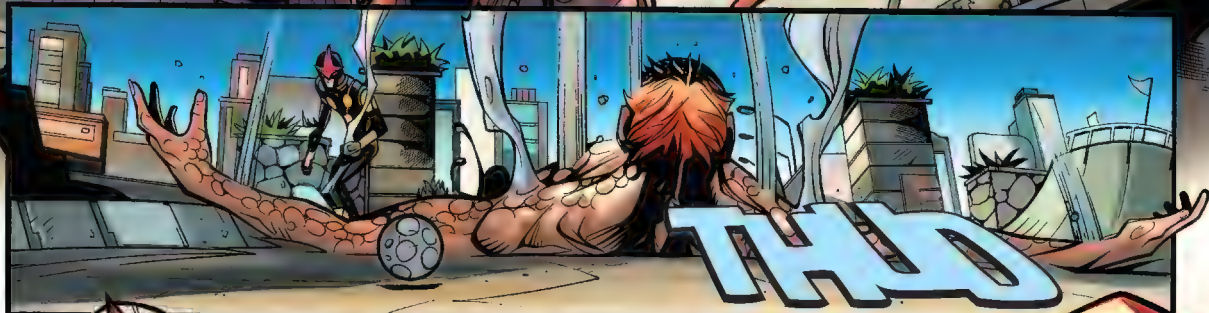


WE MOVED TO
A MANSION IN A GATED
COMMUNITY WITH GUARDS.
IN THE AVENGERS TOWER.
ME AND MY DAD,
THOR.

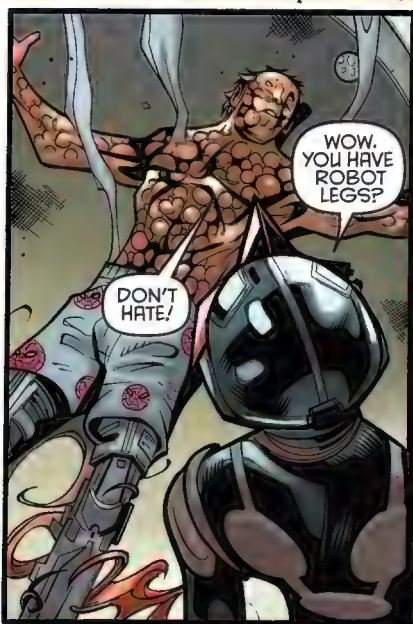




OW.
THAT WUZ
A PRETTY GOOD
SHOT, BOY.



UH, YEAH!
I WENT TOE
TO TOE WITH
THE HULK.

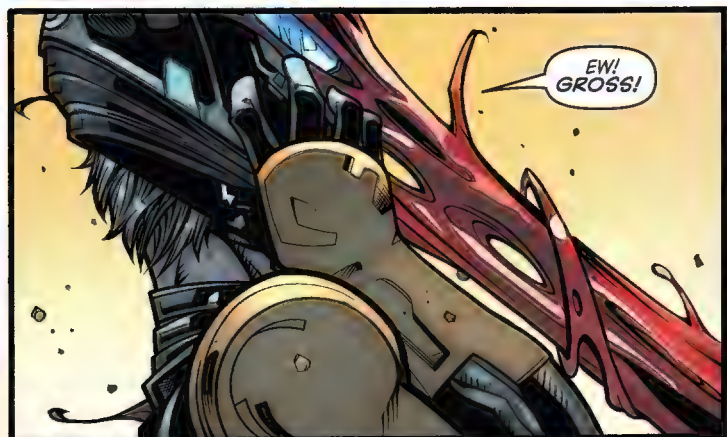
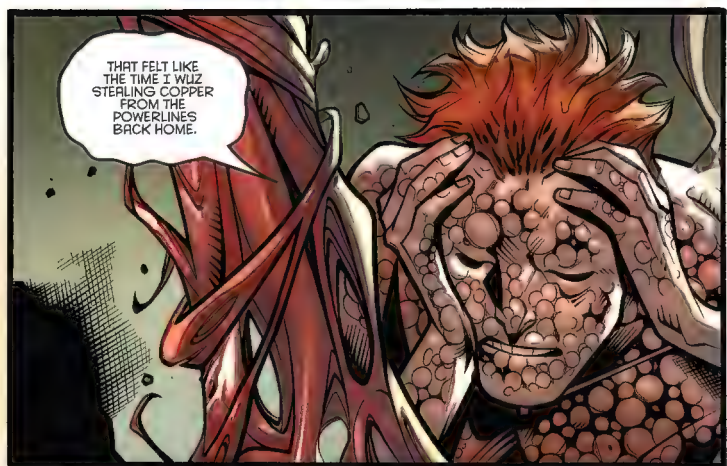


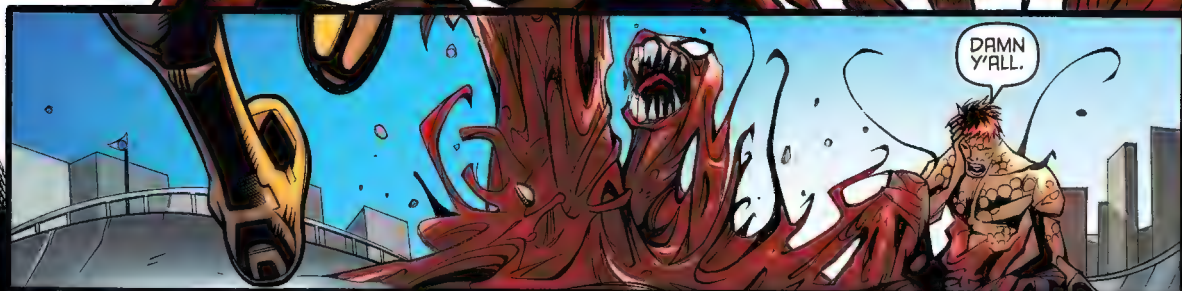
DON'T
HATE!

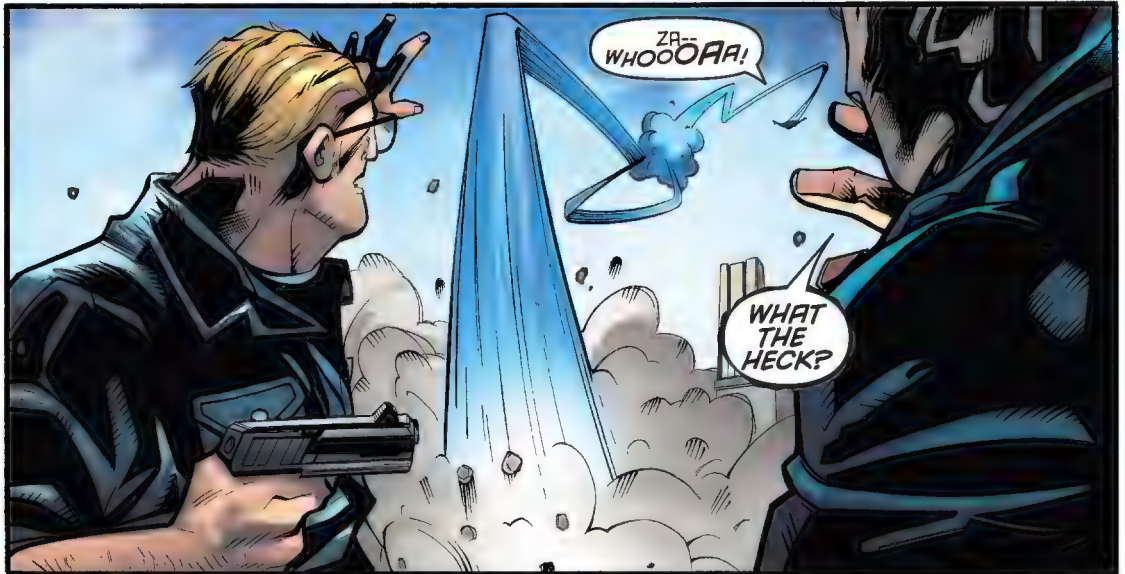
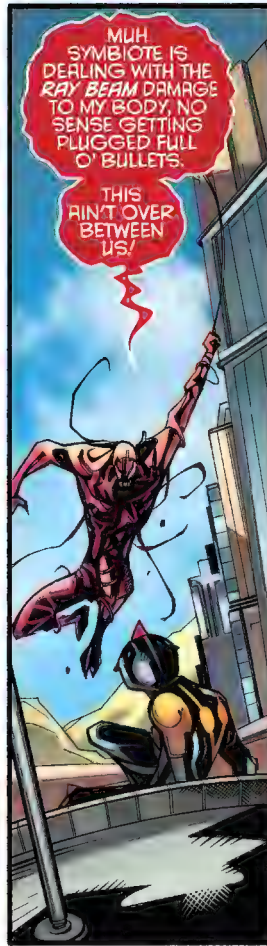
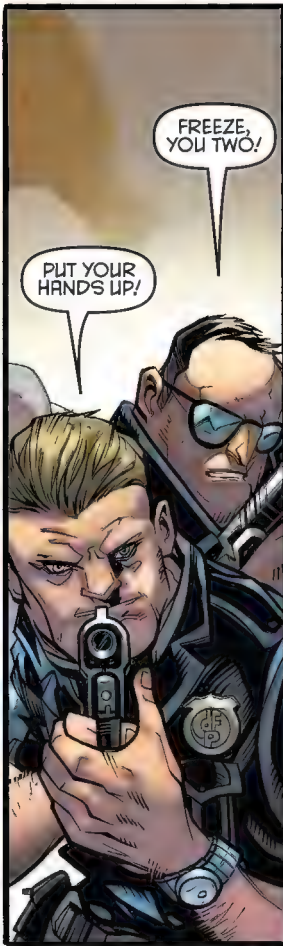


HEY! GET
OFF!

WOW,
YOU HAVE
ROBOT
LEGS?









SAM!

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?!

WHO WAS
THAT?!

HOW DOES
HE KNOW ABOUT
US?



HE WAS IN NEW YORK WITH
THE AVENGERS, AND I KINDA MIGHT
HAVE ACCIDENTALLY MENTIONED
MY NAME OR SOMETHING. MAYBE?
IT'S ALL KIND OF A FOG CAUSE
OF THE CONCUSSION.



SAM! YOU
HAVE A **SECRET
IDENTITY!**

IT'S
OKAY. I HAVE
A PLAN.

I JUST
NEED YOUR
HELP.



YOU NEED
MY HELP?!



OH MY GOD,
WE'RE ALL GOING
TO DIE.



SAM ALEXANDER,
YOU'RE IN A LOT OF
TROUBLE!

WHAT
DID I DO
NOW?



WAIT UNTIL
YOU SEE MY
HOMEWORK,
THEN YOU'LL
BE MAD.



YOU'RE NOT
SUPPOSED TO BE
RIDING A BIKE OR
A SKATEBOARD
WITH YOUR HEAD
INJURY.

SORRY,
I MISSED
THE BUS.



C'MON,
BOY! PUT
ON YER
PARTY
HAT...

OH, NO!

...CAUSE
CARNAGE IS HERE--
AND HE KNOWS NOVA'S
REAL NAME IS *SAM*
ALEXANDER!

NO I'M NOT--
AND WHO ARE
YOU?!

TO BE
CONCLUDED...

NOVA



MARVEL

DUGGAN
TIMMS
POGGI
CURIEL

027

NOVA

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PUBLISHER DAN BUCKLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ALAN FINE

PREVIOUSLY

Sam Alexander's father, Jesse, used to tell him stories about the intergalactic Nova Corps, a peacekeeping force throughout the galaxy. Sam always thought these stories were just that – stories – until one day his father went missing, and Sam found his old helmet, becoming the interstellar hero called Nova!

Recently, Sam got caught up in a huge event where many heroes and villains were involved – Carnage among them. The super serial killer became a hero and worked with Nova, who let it slip that he's Sam Alexander from Carefree, Arizona. Eventually, everyone reverted back to their usual selves.

When Carnage changed back, his first stop was Sam's neighborhood – to pay Nova a visit.



CHAPTER XXVII: MR. CARNAGE GOES TO CAREFREE

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CAREFREE
HIGH SCHOOL

YOU'RE DEAD MEAT,
SAM ALEXANDER!

EVERYONE
RUN!

LOOK
OUT!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU WANT
WITH SAM, BUT YOU'LL
HAVE TO GO THROUGH
ME TO GET TO ANY OF
MY STUDENTS.

THE YOUNG NOVA
DOESN'T NEED YOUR HELP.
HE'S HANGING OUT WITH
CAPTAIN AMERICA--NOW
STEP ASIDE, OLD MAN.

PFFFT.
WAH WAH
WUH.

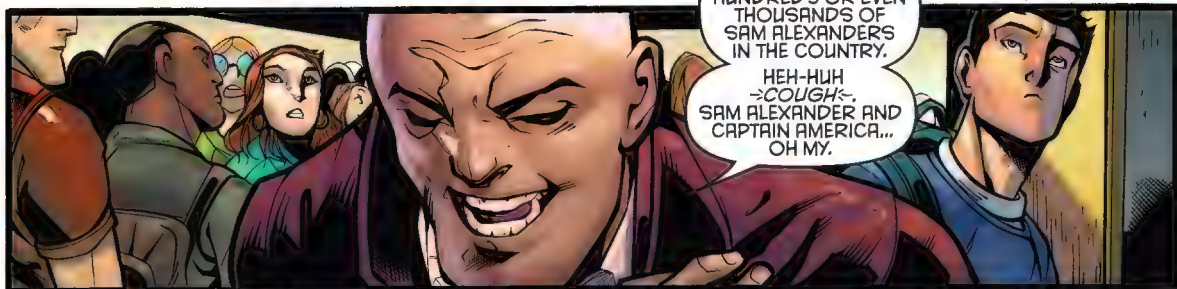
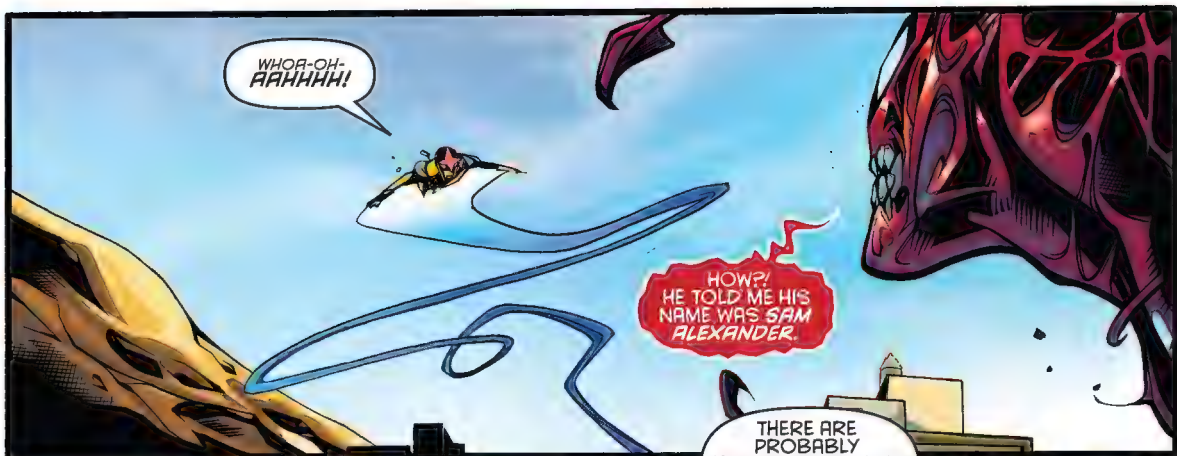
YOU THINK
THIS KID
KNOWS THE
AVENGERS?!

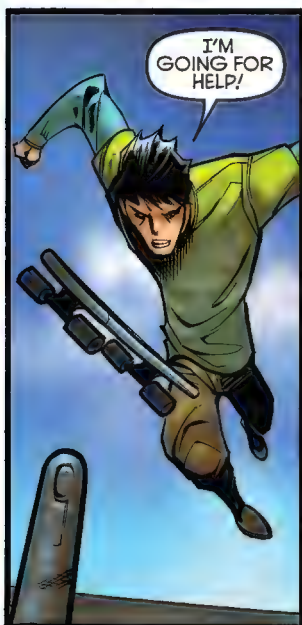
HA-HA-
HAAAAAH!

HE CAN'T EVEN
SAVE HIMSELF
FROM DETENTION,
LET ALONE THE
LIKES OF YOU!

THERE'S
THAT NOVA GUY
YOU'RE LOOKING
FOR.

WUT
THEE!







MEANWHILE
ON CAREFREE'S
MAIN STREET...

NOVA!
COME OUT TO
PLAYAAAY.



THAT'S
BETTER.

SOONER OR
LATER, I'LL GUT
SOMEBODY YOU CARE
ABOUT, NOVA.

NO, YOU
WON'T.

I WON'T
GIVE YOU THE
CHANCE. YOU'RE
LEAVING TOWN
NOW.

CARNAGE DIDN'T MUCH
CARE FOR THAT SIREN.

I SHOULD TRY AND CRANK
UP THE VOLUME ON HIM.

NAW, I AIN'T
MOVING FROM
THIS SPOT.

YOU'VE
AIN'T NEVER
HADTA TAKE
ON A KILLER
LIKE MOI.



--HURK!



I THREW
THE **HULK**
INTO OUTER
SPACE...
...BE SURE
TO TELL HIM I
SAID "HI."

SPARK
SHUUK
SPOT

JEEZ! NOT
NOW!

IF I LIVE
THROUGH THIS,
I GOTTA GET THIS
HELMET FIXED.



HAW!

LOOKS
LIKE YOUR
MAGIC HAT IS
BUSTED!

AAAAHH!

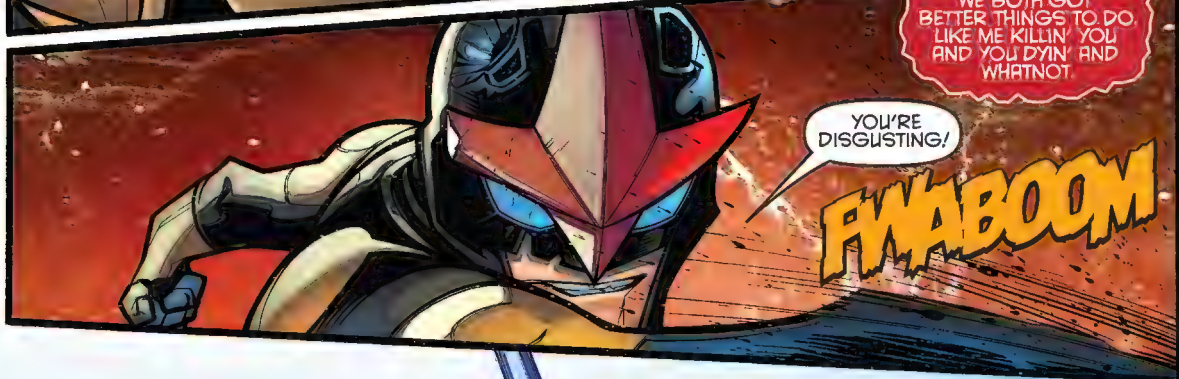
HAPPY
LANDINGS!

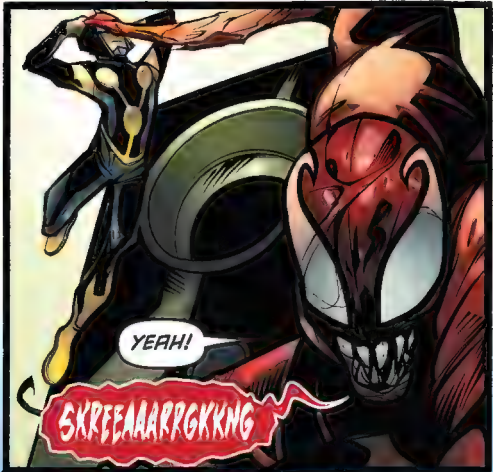
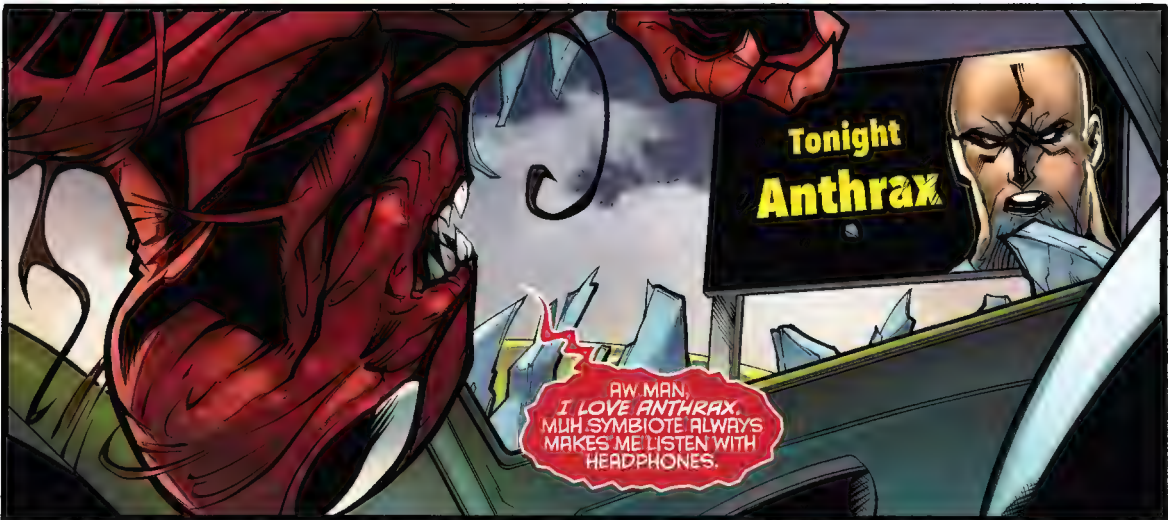
SEE YOU ON
THE GROUND,
YOU COCKY
SONOF--

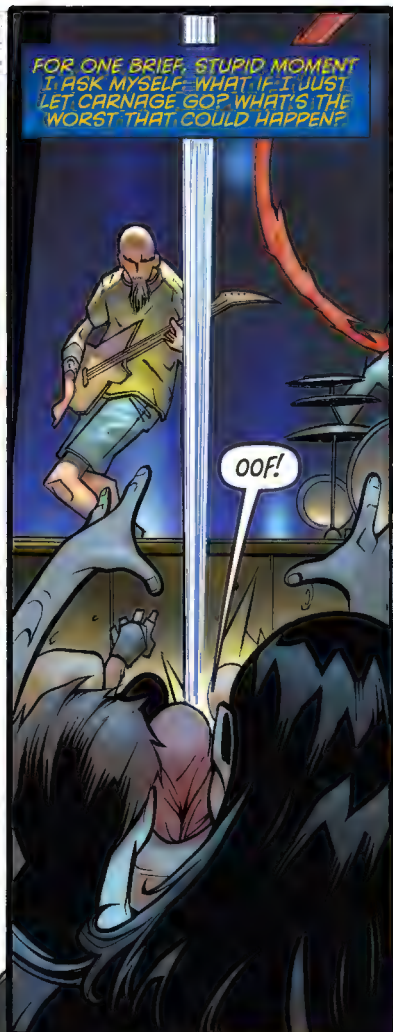
FWASH

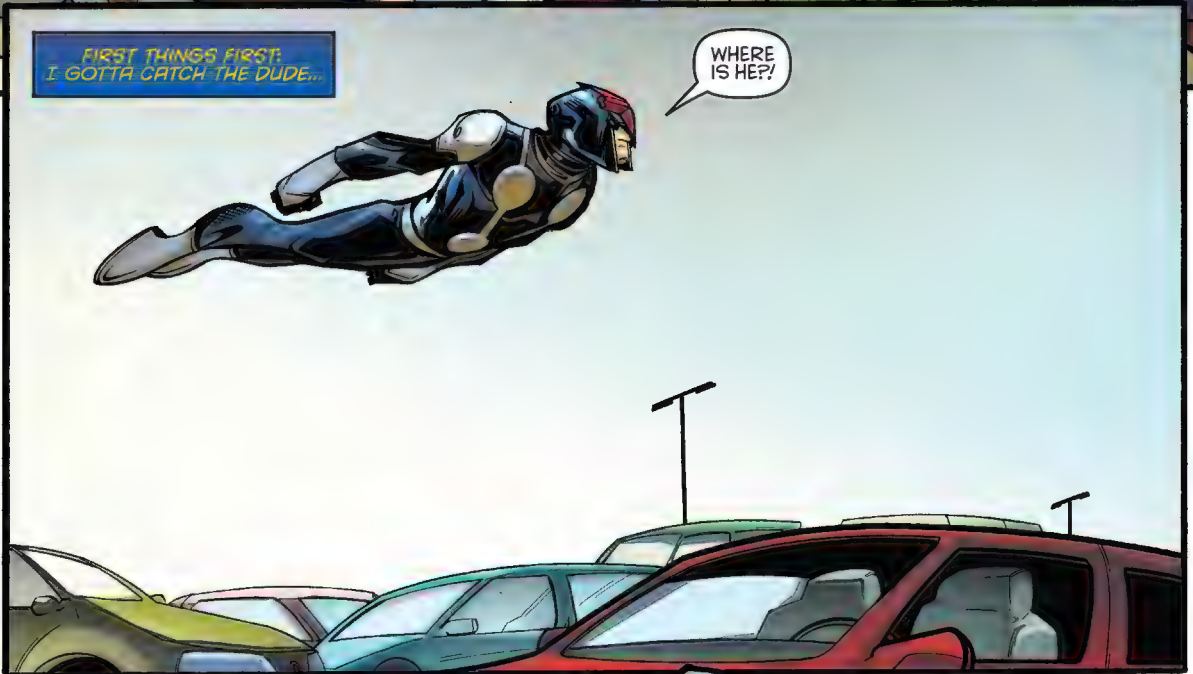
UH-OH.

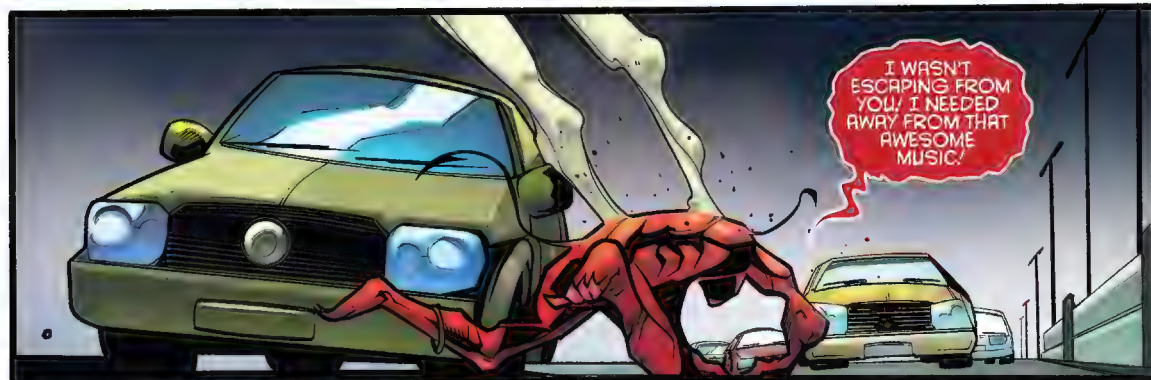
I DON'T
GET YOU.













PUT US
DOWN!

LOOK OUT,
YOU *IDIOTS*!
YOU'RE ON A
HIGHWAY!

DON'T
EVERYBODY
THANK ME AT
ONCE!



WHEN AM I GONNA GET SOME
RESPECT? LIKE SPIDER-MAN
OR--



YOU DON'T
KNOW SQUAT
ABOUT
SPIDER-MAN!

UHN!

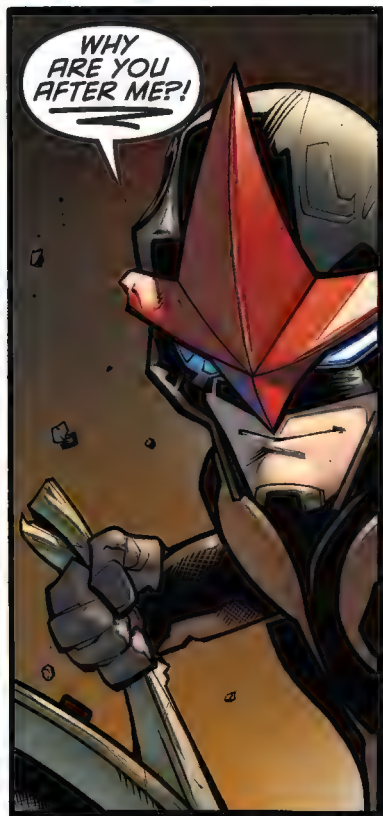
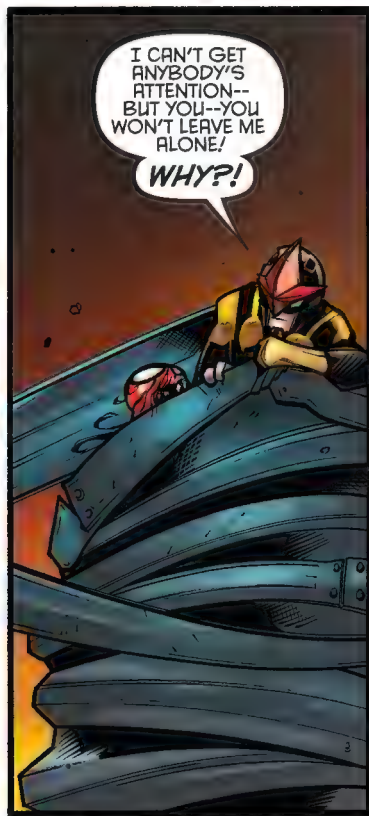
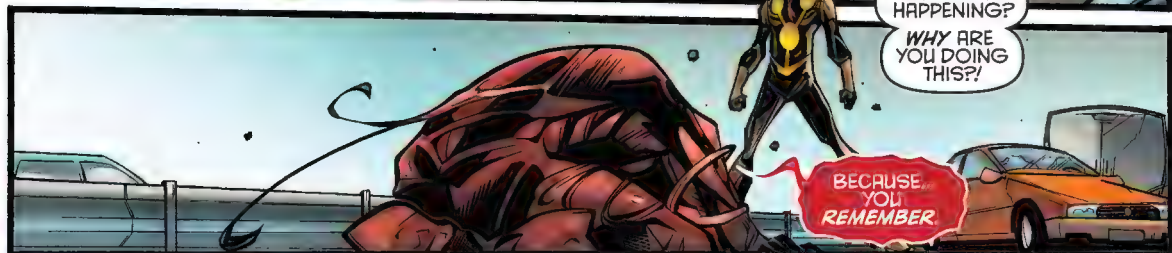
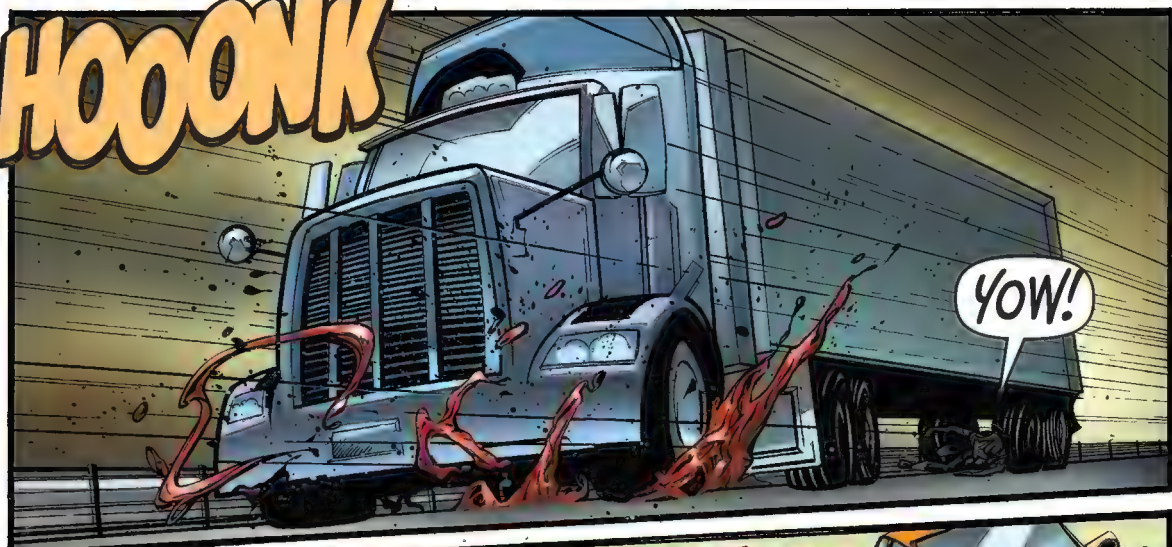
HE HITS ME PRETTY
GOOD UPSIDE THE HEAD,
BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS--
I DON'T FEEL SICK.
THE WORLD DOESN'T
SPIN--I'M BACK!

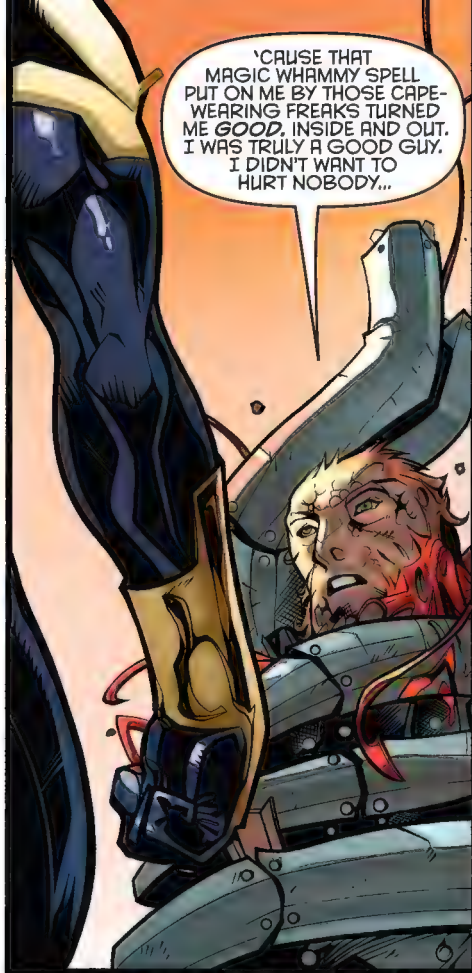


THEY WUZZ RIGHT/
THE SOUTH WILL RISE
AGAIN! RIGHT OVER
YOUR DUMB FACE,
NOVA!

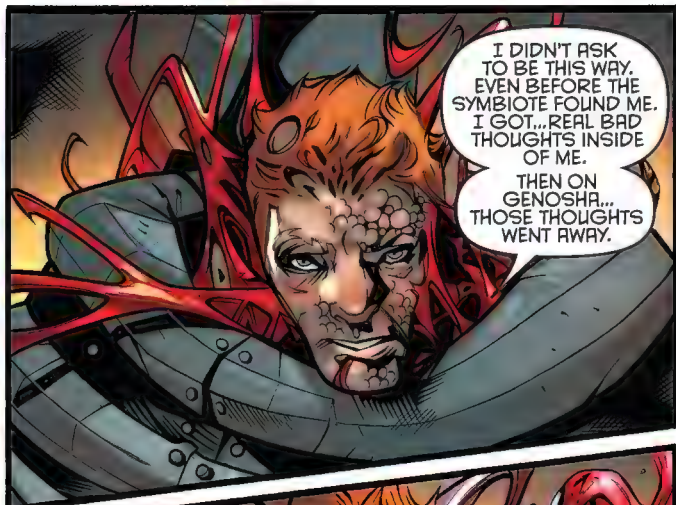
I GLENCH MY
FIST--CARNAGE
IS ABOUT TO GET
HIT HARDER THAN
HE EVER HAS
BEFORE.

HOOONK

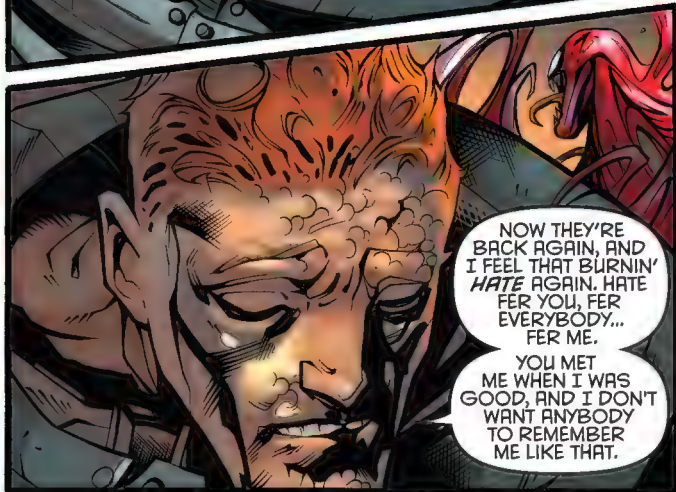




'CAUSE THAT
MAGIC WHAMMY SPELL
PUT ON ME BY THOSE CAPE-
WEARING FREAKS TURNED
ME *GOOD*, INSIDE AND OUT.
I WAS TRULY A GOOD GUY.
I DIDN'T WANT TO
HURT NOBODY...



I DIDN'T ASK
TO BE THIS WAY.
EVEN BEFORE THE
SYMBIOTE FOUND ME.
I GOT...REAL BAD
THOUGHTS INSIDE
OF ME.
THEN ON
GENOSHA...
THOSE THOUGHTS
WENT AWAY.



NOW THEY'RE
BACK AGAIN, AND
I FEEL THAT BURNIN'
HATE AGAIN. *HATE*
FER YOU, FER
EVERYBODY...
FER ME.
YOU MET
ME WHEN I WAS
GOOD, AND I DON'T
WANT ANYBODY
TO REMEMBER
ME LIKE THAT.



YOU WEREN'T
TRYING TO JUST KILL
ME, YOU WERE TRYING
TO ERASE THE MEMORY
OF ANYTHING *GOOD*
YOU EVER DID.

THAT'S THE
SADDEST
THING I'VE EVER
HEARD.

NO
EXAGGERATION.
IT'S JUST
PATHETIC.



HEY! ARE
YOU JUNKIES
GONNA GET
OUT OF THE
ROAD?

YOU SHOULD
ASPIRE?

PERSPIRE?
IT DOESN'T MATTER,
YOU SHOULD TRY TO
BE THE GUY YOU
WERE BACK IN
NEW YORK!

IF YOU AIN'T
GONNA PUT ME OUT
OF MY MISERY, WHAT
HAPPENS THEN?

I DUNNO,
I'VE NEVER DONE
THIS BEFORE. WHAT
DOES SPIDER-MAN
USUALLY DO
WITH YOU?

A SHORT, BUMPY FLIGHT LATER
AT RYKERS ISLAND, MANHATTAN

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN
YOU WON'T
TAKE HIM?

I DON'T
GET IT--THIS
IS A *JAIL*,
RIGHT?

IT IS, BUT
WE DON'T TAKE
DELIVERIES.

LISTEN, SON,
THERE'S *DUE PROCESS*.
I'M NOT A POLICE OFFICER.
PRISONERS ARE SENT HERE
AFTER THEY'RE ARRESTED
BY THE POLICE, AND THEN
SENTENCED HERE BY
THE COURTS.

YEAH, I'VE NEVER
GOTTEN TO HAVE
THIS CHAT BEFORE,
BUT I'M GRATEFUL TO
HAVE IT. I'M A STRICT
CONSTITUTIONALIST.

WELL, WHAT
DOES *SPIDEY* DO
WHEN HE DROPS
OFF GUYS LIKE
CARNAGE?

YOU'RE DOING
THIS ALL WRONG, KID.
HE JUST DROPS US
OFF AND SWINGS
AWAY.

OH?

BYEEEEEEEEEEEEE!

OH, FER
THE LOVE
OF--

ATTABOY.
THERE'S HOPE FER
HIM YET. I HOPE I'M
THE ONE THAT GETS TO
KILL THAT NOVA
SOMEDAY.

OKAY, GET
CARNAGE INTO A SONIC
CELL AND CALL S.H.I.E.L.D.
TELL THEM WE HAD
ANOTHER UNEXPECTED
"DELIVERY."

IT FEELS GOOD TO GET
BACK INTO THE RING.

TO WIN ONE.

TO DO THE
RIGHT THING.

TO BE A HERO.

EVEN IF NOBODY
IS LOOKING.



GOOD THING
NOBODY IS
LOOKING.

I REALLY
GOTTA GET
THIS HELMET
FIXED.



SO THAT SPIDER-MAN CLONE CLOWN THING IS IN JAIL, AND YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IS SAFE?

YEAH. I *PROMISE*. NOBODY ELSE KNEW MY NAME TO BEGIN WITH, AND OUR TRICK FOOLED CARNAGE INTO THINKING NOVA JUST PULLED THE NAME "SAM ALEXANDER" OUT OF HIS BUTT.



WELL, MONDAY IS A HOLIDAY, SO YOU HAVE A LONG WEEKEND.

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO, RIGHT?

FIX THE HELMET?



EXACTLY.

BUT-- I DON'T KNOW HOW.



IN SCHOOL, YOU ASK YOUR TEACHERS QUESTIONS, RIGHT?

THERE HAVE TO BE SOME PEOPLE IN YOUR LINE OF WORK THAT *HELP* EACH OTHER, RIGHT?

FIND A BIG BRAIN AND GET SOME HELP.



BEAST WAS A GOOD FIRST IDEA...



PROFESSOR?
NOVA IS HERE
TO SEE YOU.

♪ TOSSED
SALAD AND
SCRAMBLED
EGGS... ♪

HA-HA-
HA.

OH,
NILES.

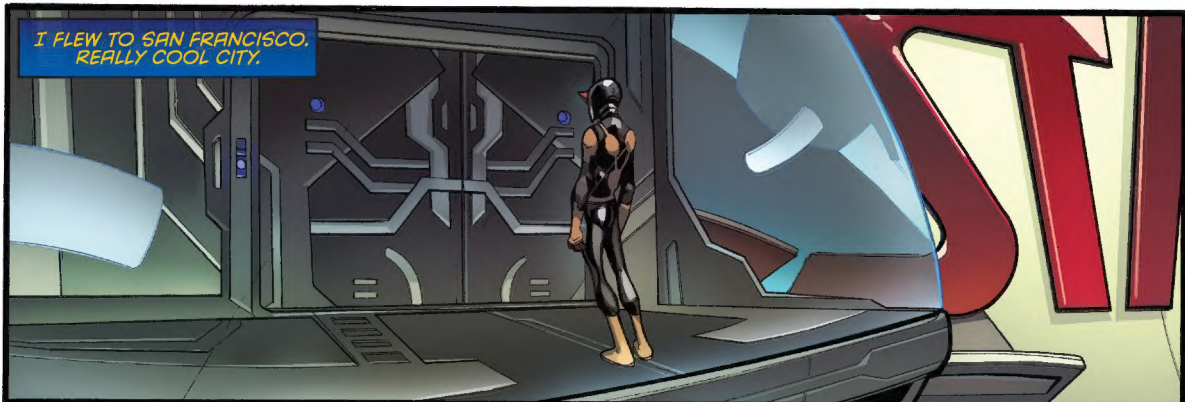
HE WAS NICE TO ME
ON HALLOWEEN, BUT...

HMM, I'M AFRAID THIS EXTRATERRESTRIAL TECH
IS OUTSIDE MY AREA OF EXPERTISE. IF YOU WANT
TO LEAVE IT WITH ME FOR A FEW WEEKS,
PERHAPS I COULD--



NO THANKS, SIR,
BUT I APPRECIATE YOU
LOOKING AT IT.

...THIS TECH STUFF WAS A BIT
OUTSIDE HIS AREA OF EXPERTISE.



I FLEW TO SAN FRANCISCO.
REALLY COOL CITY.



HELLO AGAIN,
MR. STARK. MAYBE
YOU REMEMBER ME?
I'M NOVA--

I THOUGHT IRON MAN
WAS A GREAT IDEA.



AND I...

SLAM

OH.

TURNS OUT
HE WAS A TOTAL
YOU-KNOW-WHAT.



THE NEXT PLACE I WENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN MY FIRST STOP.

THE BAXTER BUILDING. HOME OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR!



HELLOP FANTASTIC FOUR?

HELLOP



NO!
NOT YOU AGAIN!

WELL, WELL.
I DIDN'T EXPECT
TO SEE YOU AGAIN
SO SOON.

WELCOME TO
MY LABORATORY,
YOUNG NOVA.

WHAT CAN
I DO FOR
YOU?

TO BE CONTINUED IN
NOVA
ANNUAL #1
GUEST-STARRING
DOC GREEN!
[DON'T CALL HIM
THE HULK]



LETTERS FROM NOVA NATION

SEND LETTERS TO: MHEROES@MARVEL.COM 135 W 50TH ST. 7TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10020 (PLEASE MARK OKAY TO PRINT)

Hello out there in the cosmos, wherever you may be!

Assistant Editor Devin Lewis here! It's been a bit of a busy time here at Nova HQ, with the events of AXIS wrapping up and the crazed maniac Carnage stomping through Carefree!

First off, let's give it up to John Timms and Roberto Poggi who came aboard for a few issues. Their work has been just dynamite, and we hope you've enjoyed it as much as we have.

If you're wondering what Nova regulars David Baldeon and Terry Pallot have been cooking, take a peek at the cover for the first ever NOVA ANNUAL starring Sam Alexander! It's 30 pages of extraterrestrial excitement starring a certain gamma-powered goliath and it'll be in your hands in exactly THREE WEEKS!



Things are going to get even tougher for Sam when he comes face-to-face with the Guardians of the Galaxy and the X-Men as they race to control **THE BLACK VORTEX** - an ancient cosmic artifact of untold power! It'll be safe with a 15-year-old Earth kid, right?



...Right?

Enough plugging. Let's get to your letters! The first one arrived in our hands (yes, it was printed and mailed!) way back in September, but we thought we should publish it just the same.



Dear Devin,

This letter is important.

I am a regular reader of Nova and have been enjoying it thoroughly. I like your Sam's real-life problems. They remind me of Peter Parker's hero/normal dilemmas back in the day. It's the closest to Lee I've read in a long time.

Please hear me out. In today's school, Sam would not be expelled. I am a teacher. I have liked (and maybe identified with) Principal Philbin. We are desperate to keep good kids in school. Logically: How could expelling ever be a solution to truancy?

I bring this up because, all your readers have been to modern schools. They know that a chronically absent student is not automatically expelled. There is a whole legal process, set out by district guidelines. Usually, it's a ladder of consequences, from family conferences; to truancy court and in some districts the student is transferred to a program, or even a school where absentees are strictly monitored. Sam's district seems small and woefully short on resources, so it won't have all the safety nets of the NYC school system, but they would still have a lawyer and a legal process. Across the nation, there is a vast array of plans for truancy, but they all have them. Modern students see the process every day.

Suspension or emergency expulsions are usually reserved when there is danger involved. Truancy is not a danger, though it is (obviously) a sign of negative things going on outside of school.

The only way I see Sam earning an emergency expulsion is if Principal Philbin denies Sam's re-enrollment until a family conference can be held.

Truancy can affect the family. Sam's mom may have to appear in court with her son. In truancy court, the judge may look into the home life and situation.

I am sure you have friends that are educators and you can ask them about Philbin's logical courses of action.

I know it's a comic book. I know Aristotle's rules of drama and conflict. I know the fictional Principal Philbin has been bending over backwards for

fictional Sam. I know that cliffhanger endings often do not run "straight." I just don't want anyone getting/perpetuating a bad idea/stereotype about today's educational system. I'm sure you feel the same when you tell people you work in the field of comics.

The last thing I would ever want is for one of my students to think that if they came back to school, I or my principal would yell at them. We would be glad they are there.

Sincerely,
Matthew Ruane

Not only is great to hear from regular readers, but also readers who genuinely care about the characters in the Marvel Universe. As Matthew mentioned, sometimes we have to bend the rules a little bit and skew away from how a real-life scenario would play out. This was one of those cases, but, fortunately, Sam was able to talk with Principal Philbin following his expulsion and, despite his frustration with Sam, Philbin (eventually) came around. Thanks for your letter, Matthew!

Nova Office.

I wanted to write you to you that I have been reading Nova from the start. This series had a slow start but has now become a gem to read. It keeps getting better and better and the new direction of Duggan is great. I review this series for my comic review site every month and I always look forward to reviewing a great and well-written series. Keep it up!

All the best,
Mark
BC, Canada

Thanks for your support, Mark! Just wait until you see what we've got up our sleeves for Black Vortex! In the first issue, Sam **REDACTED** and then Star-Lord **REDACTED** to save **REDACTED**'s life!

I dunno about you, but I can't wait!

Let us know what you think by shooting us an email at mheroes@marvel.com and be sure to mark them OKAY TO PRINT.

Nova and out!
Deductive Dev

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